

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

**Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program
(RAMP)
Afghanistan**

For the Period: April 1 – June 30, 2004



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

BRAC	Bangladesh Rural Assistance Committee
CLIN	Cost Line Item Number
COP	Chief of Party
CPFF	Cost Plus Fixed Fee (contract)
CTO	Cognizant Technical Officer
DCA	Dutch Committee on Afghanistan
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Global Positioning System
Ha	Hectare
IALC	International Arid Lands Consortium
ICARDA	International Center for Agricultural Development in the Dry Areas
IFDC	International Fertilizer Development Center
EIPG	Embassy Interagency Planning Group
IQC	Indefinite Quantity Contract
IR	Intermediate Result
Km	Kilometer
LOE	Level of Effort
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAAH	Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry
MISFA	Microfinance Investment Support Facility – Afghanistan
MIWRE	Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources
MLIF	Ministry of Light Industries and Foodstuffs
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MPW	Ministry of Public Works
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
Mt	Metric Ton
NBFI	Non-Bank Financial Institution
NDF	National Development Framework
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NWFP-AU	Northwest Frontier Province - Agriculture University
PRA	Participatory Rural Assessment
PRT	Provincial Reconstruction Team
RAMP	Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program
RFP	Request for Proposals
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SO1	Strategic Objective 1
SPS	Sanitary, Phyto-Sanitary
TISA	Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan
TOT	Training of Trainers
UN	United Nations
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office of Project Services
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VBSE	Village-Based Seed Enterprise
WFP	World Food Program
WOCCU	World Council of Credit Unions

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Executive Summary

Extensive reorganization and restructuring of the Chemonics RAMP office and operations in Afghanistan was reported last quarter. The reorganization coupled with streamlining of procedures has permitted a more systematic focus on individual program activities, clearer staff accountability, and a more effective use of staff resources.

Infrastructure

By the end of this quarter, 26 irrigation activities were in progress or completed in eight provinces, 305 kilometers of irrigation canals and drains had been cleaned, and 221 structures repaired. The total number of hectares receiving reliable, timely water deliveries for irrigation and/or having adequate drainage due to RAMP activities approximated 305,000 hectares.

Road construction also continued at a rapid pace this quarter with more than 20 segments under construction totaling more than 400 kilometers. Of these, 104 kilometers were completed and more than 300 additional kilometers were in various stages of construction. Contracts were being negotiated for an additional 350 kilometers of road construction for Nangarhar, Kunar and Nuristan provinces. These all-weather gravel roads are being constructed to high engineering standards. The roads are well-drained, compacted, and crowned so that rain water and melting snow can drain without penetrating the road surface. The use of manual labor was combined with heavy equipment to ensure adequate compaction.

One-hundred eighteen market centers, including village produce collection centers, village bazaars, and storage, processing, and/or packaging centers, have been completed in RAMP's priority areas. These market centers are facilitating the assembly, processing, and marketing of agricultural products.

Regional offices were established and operations started in Lashkar Gah in Helmand Province and in Jalalabad in Nangarhar Province. This has permitted closer inspection of Implementing Partner activities and resulted in improved construction work.

Agriculture

Agriculture has continued its work on developing food security and the improvement of crop production. Fifteen new agricultural job orders were signed during this quarter, while work on all agricultural job orders significantly accelerated.

Major attention was given to the marketing of high value crops. Crop budget analyses, value chain analyses, crop location maps, and competitive position analyses were undertaken to determine the most promising high value crops. Several market studies were conducted in Europe, Dubai, and in the Indian sub-continent to further identify market opportunities. Dr. John Mellor used this data which he combined with the national production value of each crop and commodity group to select those commodities which should receive the highest priority.

Critical to the production and marketing of these high value commodities is the need for credit and financing services. During this quarter, an agricultural credit facility was developed with the Afghanistan International Bank, and a Request for Proposals was issued to identify interested and qualified firms to offer financial services to Afghanistan agri-businesses. RAMP is currently negotiating with two of the responding firms to provide equity financing, debt financing, and leasing.

With the approaching harvest season for the major fruit crops, RAMP is working with several commercial firms to increase the marketing of these products. Work is underway to establish cold storage facilities, cleaning and grading activities, and improved packaging for these commodities. Plans are being developed to expand the capacity to dry fruit and vegetables and to market these and higher quality nuts.

Charles F. Grader
Chief of Party

Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program (RAMP) Afghanistan

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is meeting the challenge to rebuild Afghanistan by funding the largest donor initiative in Afghanistan's agricultural sector – the Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program (RAMP). This three-year program (2003 – 2006) is improving the lives of Afghans by increasing food supplies and food security, creating jobs, increasing incomes, and strengthening the competitiveness of Afghan's agricultural products.

38 Projects Underway as of June 2004

RAMP serves as a central clearinghouse for dozens of individual projects designed to speed up results and jump-start the agricultural economy. RAMP is designed to support the Afghanistan National Development Framework and strengthen the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan central government. Activities are focused on four critical areas:

Infrastructure improvement – Rehabilitate and construct irrigation systems, roads and local market facilities

Agricultural technology – Increase crop and livestock productivity and production through new technologies, new crop varieties, fertilizers and equipment, and livestock management.

Market development – Enable more effective linkages between producers, processors and markets

Rural finance – Expanded lending to farmers, processors and agribusinesses

Three Year Program Goals:

- Improve food security
- Increase rural incomes
- \$250 million increase in marketable output

The USAID/RAMP Strategy – Developing the Value Chain

The value chain approach entails a variety of enterprises and projects that work together vertically to achieve results that are greater than the sum of their parts. RAMP projects link markets to farmers; farmers to inputs (like seed and fertilizer); inputs to higher value crops and yields; higher yields to storage and market facilities; market facilities to transportation; transportation to processing and market development. The following strategy is working to develop the value chain in Afghanistan:

- **Diagnosis and Planning**
- **Developing Sustainable Food Security**
- **Extending Beyond the Farm**
- **Reaching Export Markets**

First Step – Diagnosis and Planning

All RAMP projects were planned and initiated based on participatory rural assessments as well as assessments of



Irrigation project in Parwan Province



Talking with farmers in Kunduz

diverse market sectors to determine the most effective courses of action. The participatory rural assessments were conducted in each of the target regions (Kunduz, Parwan, Nangarhar, Ghazni, and Helmand) to evaluate farmers' current agriculture practices, understand their immediate and long-term needs, and provide technical assistance to increase crop and livestock production and productivity. This laid the groundwork for determining appropriate projects, targeting specific markets and commodities and for tracking RAMP progress. There are currently about ten different implementing partners conducting agriculture technology projects throughout Afghanistan.

Developing Sustainable Food Security

The initial RAMP projects focused on emergency repairs to damaged, nonfunctioning irrigation structures and farm to market road repairs. With a reliable source of water and access to transport, many farm families have been able to move back onto their land and resume production. The result is increased production and higher yields.

Extending Beyond the Farm

The next step is to encourage farmers to utilize their newly rehabilitated water and road resources for higher value, commercial crops. On-farm demonstrations are introducing improved varieties and better crop and water management practices. Multipurpose market facilities are providing valuable storage and wholesale/retail links between farmers and markets.

Reaching Export Markets

While Afghanistan suffered the effects of war and drought, the global economy expanded. In order for agricultural production to reach beyond regional markets, Afghan farmers and agribusinesses need to meet higher grades and standards of quality. Afghanistan agricultural products are being assessed to determine those that hold the greatest potential for increasing product value and developing value added processing and sales. Some of the commodities that have been identified include: **grapes, raisins, almonds, dried apricots, cotton, dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, goats, and poultry.**

Infrastructure

Irrigation Rehabilitation Activities: 26

Provinces of Irrigation Activities: 8

Parwan, Herat, Kunduz, Baghlan, Helmand, Nangarhar, Kandahar, Kunar

Total km of irrigation canals and drains under contract	525
Total completed as of June 2004	305
Total wages paid to Afghan workers as of June 2004	US\$1,002,300
Total beneficiaries of irrigation rehabilitation	803,152

Smaller channels, both canals and drains, often are cleaned entirely by hand labor. Larger canals and drains are cleaned primarily with equipment, draglines and backhoes, with labor carrying out dressing and dredged material disposal operations.

Road Rehabilitation Activities: 24

Provinces of Road Rehabilitation: 8

Parwan, Balkh, Ghazni, Baghlan, Kunduz, Kunar, Nangarhar, Nuristan

Total km of road scheduled for rehabilitation	744
Total completed as of July 14, 2004	110
Total wages paid to Afghan workers as of May 2004	US\$191,658
Total beneficiaries of road rehabilitation	178,771

Hectares of land affected by road rehabilitation connected to market center development: 108,022

Road work is accomplished with a combination of equipment - compactors, graders, trucks, water tankers – and skilled masons along with laborers for drain and sub-grade and surfacing placement and dressing. All road rehabilitation work utilizes local labor, skilled and unskilled.

Agricultural Technology and Market Development

The diffusion of appropriate agriculture technology is an essential element in contributing to USAID/RAMP's objectives of increasing food security and improving the livelihood of rural communities throughout Afghanistan. Projects in agricultural technology are focused on the RAMP target areas where irrigation rehabilitation, road reconstruction, and market development activities are also being implemented. This vertically integrated approach maximizes the impact on each region's commodity productivity and incomes.

Introducing New Seed Varieties

Over the past several decades, Afghanistan has not had ready access to adequate quantities of newly developed seed varieties. USAID/RAMP is implementing projects that introduce new seed varieties for staple crops, such as potato, wheat, rice, and legumes and higher value crops such as tomatoes and onions. The new seed varieties are more resistant to pests, droughts and diseases, and produce a greater yield and quality. Village-based seed enterprises are training local agriculture input dealers in seed multiplication and cost recoverable distribution systems. The added value from these enterprises is not only yield, but also crop diversification. These enterprises will lead to higher value crops and cropping systems throughout each of RAMP's target provinces.



Farmer's Field Day in Nangarhar

Agriculture Marketing

In order to help farmers earn a better price for their crops, RAMP is strengthening international and domestic marketing channels. RAMP is conducting ongoing research of international markets to identify regions in demand for Afghan products, windows of opportunity correlating with domestic growing seasons, and ways to enhance the country's competitive market advantage. In addition to marketing products have been historically important exports in Afghanistan, such as raisins and nuts, RAMP is exploring the feasibility of promoting niche market, high value crops such as saffron and fresh fruit which will produce a greater return to farming and harvesting communities.

Technology Transfer and Training to Build Capacity

On any successful agriculture project, technical assistance and training go hand in hand. Every one of RAMP's existing projects incorporates training and the transfer of new technologies to Afghan farming families. The introduction of new skills to farming and small business communities is an investment that will extend well beyond the projects' life. The implementing partners assess the needs of beneficiaries and design replicable training models catered to these needs. All of the training programs are carefully monitored, and participants are surveyed to identify ways to improve future training initiatives. Currently, RAMP's implementing partners are conducting structured training in the following areas:

- Agri-input dealer training;
- Business management (accounting, marketing etc.);
- Composting;
- Conservation;

- Integrated crop management;
- Integrated disease/pest management;
- Irrigation techniques;
- Livestock development/health/management;
- Mine awareness;
- Nursery Development;
- Processing facility operation;
- Produce preservation and storage;
- Pruning, harvesting and post harvest techniques;
- Quality control management;
- Seed propagation/technology;
- Soil and water management;
- Produce storage construction;
- Veterinary field skills.



Farmer's field day in Nangarhar

On Farm Demonstrations

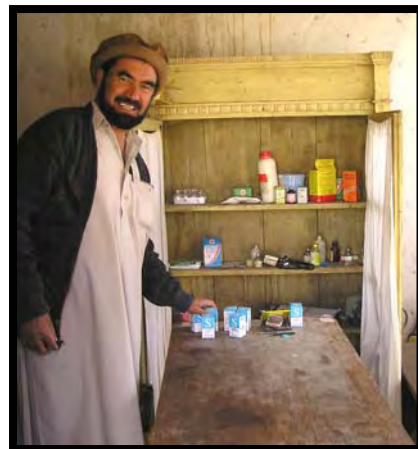
The best classroom for agriculture training is in the fields. In agricultural based economies comprised of small family farms, individuals look toward their neighbors and proven successes to learn new techniques for improving the quality and increasing the yield of their crops. By project's end, RAMP's implementing partners will have organized 1,000 on-farm demonstrations to illustrate the effectiveness of new plant varieties, and improved irrigation, cultivation, and harvesting techniques. To gauge the effectiveness of these demonstrations, the implementing partners will follow up with those participating farmers to monitor the adoption rate in successive planting and harvesting seasons.

Processing and Adding Value

The lack of operational processing facilities has prevented Afghanistan's agriculture sector from adding much needed value to products before selling them domestically and exporting. On a basic level, processing includes activities such as sorting, grading, cleaning, shelling, drying and packing. More advanced processing involves collecting various raw agriculture products to produce goods such as edible oils, juices/sauces, confectionaries, and textiles; or packaging products to meet unique consumer demands in foreign markets. RAMP's implementing partners are developing the processing sector by constructing innovative low-tech facilities such as greenhouses, solar dryers and sorting facilities, and providing related technical assistance. On a larger scale, RAMP is coordinating financing and procurement mechanisms to assist in the revitalization mills, textile factories, and food processing facilities. These efforts will not only allow farmers and traders to fetch a higher price for their products, but will also contribute to generating new jobs throughout the country.

Livestock Management

As a largely pastoral nation, Afghanistan has rich history of breeding and raising cows, sheep, donkeys, camels, goats, and chickens. In addition to being a source of food, many of these animals also provide labor, and high value by-products such as eggs, wool and cashmere. RAMP is working with agricultural communities to help them get greatest return from their flocks and herds. Implementing partners are combining efforts to provide much needed veterinary and vaccination services, guidance in animal nutrition and disease control, and introducing sturdier breeding stock. The nationwide veterinary field units are providing vaccinations and health care services that will increase herd size throughout Afghanistan by approximately



A veterinary field unit, ready for business

10% annually. By strengthening the livestock sector and offering related technical assistance, RAMP is not only enhancing local productive capacity, but also presenting sustainable income generating opportunities.

Market Support Facilities

The USAID/RAMP market centers provide Afghan farmers with a place for cleaning, sorting, storing and packaging their products. Buyers and traders have easier access to farmers and their produce. RAMP market support facilities are strategically located to support irrigation, road rehabilitation, agricultural production and processing projects in the same region.

RAMP has twelve implementing partners building market centers in RAMP's five priority provinces (Kunduz, Parwan, Nangarhar, Ghazni, and Helmand).

Types of market centers being developed include: village produce collection centers, village bazaar market centers, storage, processing, and/or packing centers, and a wholesale market. The market center and location is strategically planned to:

- allow producer associations to assemble and market larger volumes of agricultural produce at more competitive prices;
- may be used every day for most months of the year when crops are harvested and/or marketed;
- be accessible to improved roads near areas of major agricultural production



Produce collection structure in Nangarhar

Village Produce Collection Centers

Total: 74

Collection centers typically have a capacity of 100 cubic meters. They have concrete floors with brick and mortar walls and roofs made of galvanized steel, wood, and/or other local materials.

Village Bazaar Market Centers

Total: 10

The village bazaar market center is up to 600 cubic meters in size and consists of multiple stalls with concrete floor, brick and mortar walls and supporting structures for the roof, and galvanized, wood, and/or other local materials. The bazaar may include temporary storage facilities.



Farmer's market under construction in Jalalabad

Storage, Processing and/or Packing Centers

Total: 101

The storage, processing, and/or packing center varies in design from one location to another. In some cases, it is a multi-room warehouse, 250 or more cubic meters in size. One room is an open covered area of at least 125 cubic meters, and two rooms are about 75 cubic meters each. The center may be located in a district center or a central location where an association or cooperative operates. Additional market facilities include cylindrical holding bins (up to 10 metric tons capacity) made of galvanized steel, with

skids for portability. In some cases, the center is equipped with cold storage facilities. Initially, these cold storage facilities are refrigerated containers (40'x 8'x 8') that are equipped with cooling fans. More permanent cold storage facilities will be established through private sector investment.

Wholesale Market

Total: 1

Wholesale markets in Afghanistan provincial and district centers are typically dilapidated with very poor drainage and no utilities. The rehabilitation of the wholesale market (ranging in size from 0.4-1.0 hectare) includes paving (with reinforced concrete) the loading/unloading area and the exit/entry areas, and adding a potable water supply.

Examples of Market Centers Constructed

Village Collection Centers

To assist in marketing grapes in Shomali Plains and Kandahar, 25 collection centers have been constructed or are being constructed. They will allow producers and/or traders to do two different things with their grapes: (1) assemble the grapes in a shaded environment before they are packed into trucks, (2) continue the process of chilling the grapes (that started in the field) until the grapes are trucked under refrigeration to the packing centers for export. These centers are also being used during other times of the year for assembling and trading high value crops, such as vegetables.



Village collection center in Parwan

Wholesale Markets

The fresh fruit and vegetable wholesale marketplace in Jalalabad (Nangarhar province), is being rehabilitated by laying down reinforced concrete in the loading/unloading areas (about 0.5 hectare area) and entry/exit areas, installing proper drainage of these areas, and adding a water supply to the market area. It is expected that those renting space will upgrade their own stalls once these improvements have been made in the market center area. The marketplace, located near the edge of Jalalabad, is municipality-owned but privately managed (through a one-year rental contract) by the organization that won the bidding process.



Grain holding bin in Nangarhar

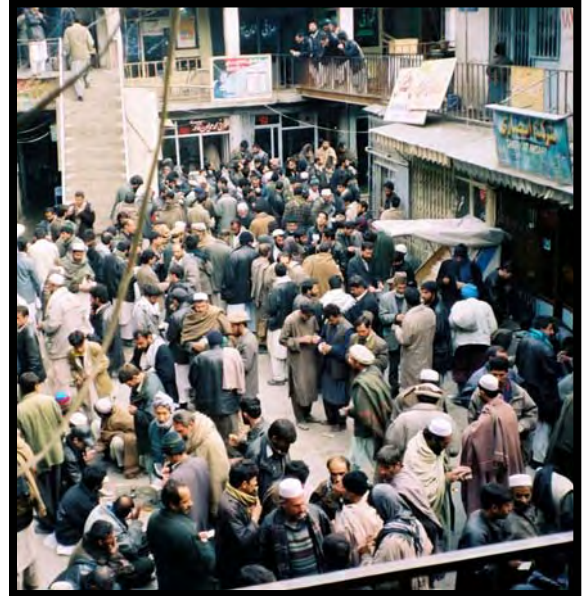
Multipurpose holding bins

Multipurpose, portable grain holding bins are being installed in the RAMP five priority provinces. These bins are being used by private seed growers' and agricultural producers' associations. The bins are being used to decrease post-harvest storage losses and add value to the product through post-harvest processing, including blending, packaging, weighing, fumigating, and repackaging weathered bags.

Rural Credit and Financial Services

Addressing the Need for Credit in Afghanistan

Just one year ago, there were no functioning banks or formal financial institutions in Afghanistan. Financial transactions within the country took place through the “hawalla” system, an informal network of money dealers. Afghan entrepreneurs relied on this limited system which left them vulnerable to exploitation and unfair lending practices. In rural Afghanistan, an estimated 50% of the population lives below the poverty line. Lack of credit prevents marginal farmers from investing in quality seed and fertilizer at the beginning of the crop season. As a result, more farmers turn to poppy production when opium dealers make an advance payment before planting.



Money changers in Kabul

The Rural Finance Goals and Strategy

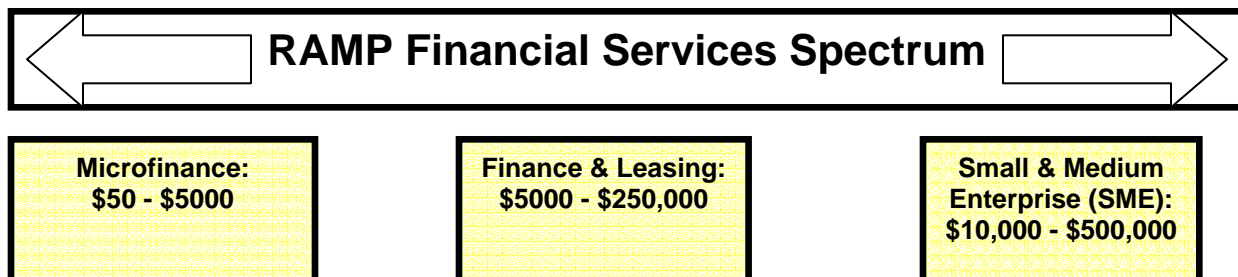
The goals of USAID/RAMP financial services are to manage risk, encourage sustainable growth and stimulate lending. The strategy is to provide a broad range of financial services leveraging funds with those from other investors and donors and build collaborations that strengthen private sector financial institutions. The USAID/RAMP investment will be used to encourage the private sector to support small and medium sized agribusinesses that may be a higher risk and lower profit than larger enterprises, but generate thousands of jobs throughout Afghanistan.

RAMP interventions include:

- Investing \$5 million for microfinance loans and technical assistance.
- Investing \$5 million in finance and leasing for equipment, processing facilities, storage & machinery.
- Establishing a credit line of \$2 million targeted for loans to small and medium agri-enterprises.
- Investing \$4 million in a guarantee mechanism to encourage lending to Afghan agribusinesses.
- Interfacing credit and financial services with other RAMP projects, increasing agricultural output and contributing to food security.

The RAMP strategy will significantly expand financial services in Afghanistan by:

- Filling in the gaps for financial products and services available to the agricultural sector,
- Encouraging the private sector to serve a broader range of clients, and
- Diversifying the risk across a broader range of economic sub sectors.



The success of these endeavors will build confidence in the Afghan economy and agriculture investment and encourage further development from the private sector.

The 20 years of conflict and the resulting lack of formal financial institutions in Afghanistan has resulted in a severe shortage of qualified personnel in finance and lending. Therefore, developing financial services in Afghanistan requires an incremental approach that begins by introducing credit at the micro level and provides training for loan officers to implement the program.

First Step – the Microfinance Investment and Support Facility (MISFA)

- **USAID Investment: \$5 million**
- **Nine microfinance institutions currently disbursing loans.**
- **Loan officers trained: 1150 as of June 2004**
- **Loans disbursed: 1190 as of June 2004**
- **Locations: Currently in 15 provinces**

The RAMP approach to supporting the financial infrastructure in Afghanistan began by investing in MISFA, the Microfinance Investment and Support Facility (created by the World Bank). MISFA provides training for over 2,000 loan officers who will be disbursing loans nationwide. Micro loans range from \$50 to \$5,000 and have a major impact on the poorest families within the agricultural sector.

MISFA's Community Based Approach

MISFA microfinance institutions utilize strategies that enable the poor to learn about credit and obtain loans without collateral. This "community based" approach engages entrepreneurs through weekly classes in credit, financial management and other issues. The group lending model provides very successful repayment rates.

Microfinance not only creates jobs and income; access to MISFA financial services such as savings, leasing, and insurance can also assist the poor to manage risk, reduce vulnerability, and access better health and education opportunities.

Integration of Rural Finance Activities into RAMP Projects

Because agricultural lending tends to be somewhat risky and requires a strong agricultural background linking the microfinance institutions and banks to the agricultural projects being implemented under RAMP would provide added loan security (selecting and referring clients from projects providing training and technical assistance) and would be cost effective (clients already trained and supported). The following activities are initial examples of integration progress:

- **FAO and Mercy Corp's Ariana Financial Services** are teaming up to provide micro loans to women involved in the village women's poultry project.
- **IFDC and Aga Khan's rural financial services** are teaming up to provide micro loans to fertilizer dealers trained under the IFDC dealer training project. Larger fertilizer dealers in need of loans beyond the microfinance level will be financed through one of the RAMP proposed bank partners

Microfinance Success Story

From within the walls of her courtyard home, Latifa runs the vegetable and plant business that is the sole support of her family. She received her first loan of \$150 to purchase a generator and water pump for irrigation and to provide water for her small greenhouse.

Latifa and her extended family live in a neighborhood of Kabul that was particularly hard hit by bombing. The income from her garden sales has enabled her to purchase needed household items and more nutritious food for her children.

Latifa's family



such as Afghanistan International Bank (AIB) which is providing small and medium loan services to agribusinesses with USAID/RAMP support.

- BRAC and FAO are working together on the recent grant from MISFA for BRAC to initiate an Agriculture & Livestock Development and Credit Support Program (ALDCSP). BRAC will also collaborate with other RAMP Implementing Partners in the provinces where the project will be started.
- CADG has referred a potential investor to buy the raisin factory they have rehabilitated. To RAMP for possible presentation to the Afghanistan International Bank (AIB), who are slated to provide small and medium loans to agribusinesses next quarter.
- RAMP's Livestock Specialist has developed business plan templates for small and medium size poultry enterprises. Two poultry enterprises are expected to complete their business plans in the next few weeks and they will be presented to RAMP's proposed banking partner, AIB.

Rural Financial Services
Microfinance Investment Support Facility for Afghanistan (MISFA)
Life of Project: 18-Dec-03 to 31-Dec-04
Provinces: Nationwide

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#1-0003-MISFA	18 Dec. 2004	Fran Toomey	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$5,000,000	\$702,107	\$979,587	\$310,000	\$3,710,413

Project Description: MISFA is the umbrella microfinance program which funds microfinance institutions that use a diversified range of products, methodologies, geographic locations and targeted clients. This is an 18-month grant of \$5,000,000 to the Ministry of Reconstruction and Rural Development to channel funds to the Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA). MISFA will finance a mix of organizations that implement a diverse range of microfinance approaches in order to test their applicability to Afghanistan and support the development of a diverse and competitive microfinance sector. This is a World Bank supported activity.

Expected Results (by end of project):

- Total loan portfolio: \$4,000,000
- Approximately 15,000 loans
- Target number of institutions disbursing loans: 11 nationwide

Accomplishments this quarter:

1. **BRAC** agricultural proposal was completed for submission to MISFA and approved. BRAC will coordinate with other RAMP partners at the district level to introduce their agricultural loan product.
2. **Ariana/Mercy Corps** prototype poultry loan product was designed with Tom Fattori, RAMP livestock advisor who also worked with FAO and Boniad to resolve roles and responsibilities and launch this product.
3. Training on market research and product development for Madera, Acted, Dacaar and CARE completed, in preparation for business plans to be submitted by Acted, Madera and Dacaar.
4. **Aga Khan:** more work has been done by AKDN on the preparation of the proposal. The scale of the program being designed is too broad at this moment given AKDN's lending capacity and the fact that substantial funds are already directed towards agricultural with its generic products (approximately \$300,000). AKDN advised to focus on one new loan product at a time and on only a few areas.
5. **Women for Women:** they have announced that they will be disbursing up to 70% of their existing portfolio in agriculture, with their existing/generic product, therefore projections were revised accordingly and US\$50,000 were added to the period July-September 2004.
6. **FINCA:** while training for new product development was being considered for the summer time, FINCA has indicated that they cannot focus on this currently and will look into it at a later stage (potentially during the late summer or in the fall).
7. **Madera:** the business plan was reviewed and questions/comments were provided to Madera's country director for finalization of the submission to MISFA.
8. **Survey:** each MFI has provided projections of their portfolio allocated to agricultural-related activities. Because microfinance institutions use different categories for their business activities depending on their MIS and reporting system, it is important to find out how many activities are actually related to agriculture so as to ensure that the funding received is appropriate for their needs and that projections will be in line with the reality. Therefore, MISFA will conduct a quarterly survey to take place so as to obtain more accurate figures for the agricultural portfolio and to be able to correct disbursements accordingly. This survey is the starting point of a more thorough monitoring system. During this period, the scope of work for the survey was prepared and contract negotiations began with the consulting agency to be used for the survey, Altai Consulting.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

Timing: some MFIs are still focusing more on institutional development and overall lending and want more time before making the new agricultural lending products available. RAMP's Ag Finance Specialist is working with them to speed up the process.

There has been some confusion over definitions: the planned survey for August will clarify the microfinance institutions portfolio of agricultural loans and ensure that all MFIs are using the same definitions for agricultural lending and reporting.

Looking Ahead

Monitoring: MISFA monitoring unit has its own set of reports and is collecting baseline information. Once the various agricultural programs start, they will be monitored in terms of disbursements, improvements and effectiveness.

Mercy Corps: follow up on collaboration between FAO and Mercy Corps, finalize MOU, present loan product to Boniad for their final approval.

CRS: meet with CRS, another RAMP implementing partner in Herat, to see how they could tie into the microfinance activities of FINCA.

Survey follow up: finalize contract with consulting company, prepare survey in terms of sampling, timeline, coordination with MFIs, questionnaire design. Finalize survey results.

Review Acted and Daccaar business plans and provide feedback for final submission to MISFA.

Follow-on up on BRAC in terms of start of the agricultural program and collaboration with other partners.

Review AKDN proposal (after mid August) and prepare for MISFA and standing committee reviews.

Comments

Some issues surfaced during this quarter regarding the grouping and definition of agricultural loans which implementing institutions were disbursing. RAMP wanted to ensure that each microfinance institution was utilizing the designated agricultural RAMP loan capital for all of the agricultural loans they were disbursing, rather than utilizing the larger pool of MISFA loan capital. A survey is being designed to detail the types and usages of the loans by the RAMP Agriculture Finance Specialist who will also oversee the management of the survey.

MISFA will continue to collaborate with the microfinance institutions on new loan product development. The number of microfinance institutions under MISFA will increase as the International Labour Organization (ILO) builds the capacity of partner NGOs providing micro-credit. ILO will assist them in meeting high evaluation standards and employing best practices.

The MISFA implementing partners are actively disbursing loans for agricultural inputs, farming tools, small livestock, and agricultural trade. Initially, these loans will have a limited impact on rural agricultural markets. As the microfinance institutions simultaneously grow and expand their financial services throughout Afghanistan, producers will have increasing opportunities to access credit.

Security – nothing to report

Kandahar Check Dams
Central Asia Development Group (CADG)
Life of Project: 15-Oct-03 to 15-Aug-04
Provinces: Kandahar and Helmand

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#2-0002-CADG	Oct. 15, 2003	James Huddleston	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$706,915	\$24,573.09	\$42,158.60	\$0.00	\$640,183.31

Project description: CADG is constructing two check dams to retard the flow of rainwater runoff, to recharge aquifers and karezes.

Expected Results (at end of project):

Enhanced Livelihood – Improved water supply to two villages.

Accomplishments this report:

The Islam Dara # 2 check dam is 100% complete and the Tangriz check dam is 60% complete.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

Deteriorating security conditions have generated a rethinking of the program.

Looking ahead:

CADG will continue to work towards completion of the Tangriz dam.

Comments:

At June 30, 2004 CADG had completed the construction of the Islam Dara # 2 Dam and was approximately 60% completed at the Tangriz Dam site.

Because of security considerations and because program objectives have changed to more directly address the drought and relief program of the government and to engage hand labor for the construction of a large number of small water detention structures, the remaining budget will be directed to a cooperative RAMP-Government initiative.

Security: Security in the areas where these dams are located is always a problem.

Irrigation Rehabilitation for the Char Dara, Bala Doori and Darqad Systems

Development Alternatives, International (DAI)

Period of Performance: 17-Feb-04 to 30-Jun-06

Provinces: Kunduz, Baghlan, Helmand

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#3-0002-DAI	21-Oct-03	Saroj Basnyet	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$3,779,028.	\$891,757.56	\$1,770,807.65	\$492,209.70	\$1,516,010.65

Project Description: This contract encompasses 6 separate rehabilitation activities in two productive agricultural regions – the Kunduz and Helmand River basins.

Phase One: Rehabilitation of the Char Dara, Bala Doori and Darqad Irrigation projects, on the Kunduz River, Kunduz and Baghlan Provinces – these were completed March 2004.

Phase Two: DAI started work on 2 of the Phase II activities in March 2004. These activities were the Marja Drain Cleaning Phase II in Helmand and the Bala Doori Canal Structures Activity in Baghlan Province. Work on the third activity, the Dand-e-Gehuri Road Rehabilitation Activity, also in Baghlan Province, began on 1 June 2004. A fourth activity, the Shamalan S10 Lateral Canal Bank Repair activity was postponed and subsequently cancelled.

Expected Results (by end of project):

Phase One – 48,000 Hectares receiving improved irrigation; 35,600 farm families with increased productivity; and 482,000 person days of employment.

Phase Two - These improvement activities will benefit 13,000 families or 78,000 people, and the total area of agricultural land that will benefit from this work is 28,200 hectares.

Accomplishments this quarter:

Phase 11 – original activities:

Marja Drain Cleaning – Phase II - Helmand
Bala Doori Canal Structures - Baghlan
Dand-e-Gehuri Road Rehabilitation - Baghlan
Shamalan S-10 Lateral - Helmand

The three activities under Phase II of Job Order #3:

- Remove about 387,000m³ of silt from main drains in the Marja subsystem (to complete work DAI started under a different contracting mechanism;
- Repair or re-build 5 super passages, 20 turnouts and 140 meters of retaining wall on the Bala Doori Canal. All these works have been completed. Some additional work has also been done. These additional works could be seen from the tabulated progress report for Bala Doori Canal Structures.
- Re-surface, grade and provide proper drainage for 38 km of tertiary roads in the Dand-e-Gehuri region of Baghlan Province. In addition to this 45 structures for disposal of water under the roads are also being built.

At 30 June, 2004	Marja Drains Phase II	Shamalan S-10 Lateral	Bala Doori Structures	Dand-e-Gehuri Roads
Province	Helmand	Helmand	Baghlan	Baghlan
Target volume of work	387,000 m ³ of silt to be removed	2.90 km canal bank to repair	1,775 m ³ stone masonry & concrete	38 km to be resurfaced
Volume of work completed at 30 June 2004	324,217m ³	See Section 4	1,490 m ³	7.70km
% of volume remaining	16%	100%	0 %	80%
% of time remaining	20%	See Section 4	0 %	50%
Total budget ¹	\$548,317	\$634,555	\$124,937	\$476,179

Marja Drain – DAI is utilizing 6 draglines for the wider deeper sections and manual laborers for the smaller, narrower sections.

S-10 Shamalan Lateral– While waiting for the canal gates to be closed so that work can continue, DAI is pouring 490sq.meters of concrete blocks to use as bank riprap.

Dand-e-Gehuri roads – this district is associated with the Darqad irrigation project. The roads being repaired include the Darqad canal road, the Jue Naw road and the Mangal Ha road, all of which link prime agricultural areas to the main road between Pul-e-Khumri and Mazar-e-Sharif. Work began in May, no report on km of progress yet.



Compacting the Mangal Ha road

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

Suitable stone for the S-10 was not available locally – so DAI is pouring concrete blocks as a more economical solution for riprap to prevent the fill material from washing away. Plans were to complete work by end of March 2004, but the Helmand Valley Authority released water into the canal earlier than expected, washing away some of the fill and delaying work until the gates can be closed and the canal drained. They are working with Mirabs and the Authority to schedule closures and complete the task.

Looking Ahead:

- Marja Drain - continuation of desilting and widening
- S-10 Lateral – recommence backfilling and riprapping, subject to agreement with the Helmand Valley Authority and farmers on a schedule for closing the gates and draining the canal.
- Dand-e-Gehuri – Conduct a GPS survey and publish accurate maps of the alignments of the 3 roads. Develop a work plan and begin work.

Comments:

DAI has constructed 21 out of 28 kilometers of roads since May based on their cost reimbursable contract. They have used a grader, compactor, two water tankers and two tractors. Ten and fifteen trucks transported gravel and sand. Dynamic Cone Penetrometer (DCP) readings taken ensured that structural properties of gravel and earth sub-base is satisfactory.

Security-nothing to report

Kunduz Road and Khanabad Irrigation System Rehabilitation
Kunduz Reconstruction Agency (KRA)
Period of Performance: 10-Oct-03 to 31-Aug-04
Provinces: Kunduz

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#4-0002-KRA	20-Oct-03	Saroj Basnyet	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$544,831	\$75,000	\$325,000	\$85,000	\$134,831

Project Description: KRA will upgrade 24.5 km of tertiary roads, and repair the Khanabad Dam Irrigation System by building a protection wall to prevent erosion from destroying the dam. The protection wall for the Khanabad Dam was completed March, 2004

Expected Results (at end of project):

Enhanced Livelihood – 21,621 farm families with increased access to markets; 10,300 Hectares receiving improved irrigation; and 34,000 farm families with increased production.

Accomplishments this quarter:

Nek Pai & Boin 24.5km tertiary road rehabilitation

- 1- The compaction, removal of large stones, compaction of road sides and watering is ongoing for Nekpai 13km and Tarnab 11.5km roads.
- 2- A market produce collection center has been completed on both roads.
- 3- A small, vibrating compactor is in use on both sides of the roads as work progresses.
- 4- Materials are being purchased for the culverts on both roads.

Traffic is steadily increasing, particularly with transport of melons and watermelons to Kunduz and Kabul markets, which will continue until October.

Nek Pai (13km) (90% complete)

Total Road Graveled:	12km
Total Sub grade:	13km
Stones procurement for culverts:	509m3
Culverts Installed:	48
Culverts under construction:	2

Boin (11.5km)

Total Road Graveled:	0km
Total Sub grade:	11.5km
Stones procurement for culverts	410m3
Culverts Installed:	4
Culverts Under Construction:	14



The market produce collection center 10m X 3m



Workers on the Nek Pai Road

Constraints Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken:

Gaining access to the rights-of-way for widening the road required extensive dialogs with the landowners and input from local leadership. The high water level on both sides of the road is slowing the progress on rehabilitation.

Looking ahead:

Work continues on compaction of the sub-grade and gravel on both roads with the expectation of completion at the end of October. KRA staff are also in the process of collecting data on the impact of

road building activities and the benefits to farmers.

Comments:

KRA had shown financial commitment for the construction of farm to market road projects by purchasing a 13 MT roller and a 1 MY hand operated roller. The width of the road has been increased from the existing 4 to 6 meters through the residential area. Communities have donated their land, compound walls and sections of their buildings. After several incidents of sub-standard construction, KRA is now performing according to program specifications for quality. They have removed several road sections and are crowning, watering and compacting the sub-base to ensure that the structural properties of earth sub-base is satisfactory before rolling out a layer of gravel.

Security: nothing to report

Development of Rural Poultry Production Activity

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Life of Project: November 3, 2003 – June 30, 2006

Provinces: Nangarhar, Kunduz, Helmand, Parwan, Ghazni

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#5-0004-FAO	19-Oct-04	Tom Fattori	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$3,599,239.00	\$0.00	\$299,240	\$300,000	2,999,999

Project Description: FAO will provide training in improved poultry care and production to 25,000 village women as well as introducing poultry income generating activities to open new markets for the surplus eggs.

Expected Results (by end of project):

1. Enterprises Developed: 5 feed processing centers established to produce and sale poultry feed
2. Enhanced Livelihood: 25,000 women trained and supported to establish poultry farms; 25,000 families benefit from improved nutrition and supplemental income

Accomplishments this Quarter

A total of 4,060 village women have been organized into training groups. Of these women, 2,190 marginal and poor women were selected for direct project inputs while others participate in the training and purchase their own supplies and chickens. Additional trainers are being identified for expanding the project's activities in Parwan and Jalalabad. Pullets for the next distribution are in the process of being reared. Supplies procured include: 6,000 meters wire mesh, 3,000 feeders, 1,000 drinkers, and 7,500kg of balanced chicken rations.

- 768 technical classes, 1 hour each have been conducted for 2,190 women in 28 villages of Nangarhar, Kunduz and Parwan.
- 1,870 women have attended the classes to increase their own knowledge, but require no supplies
- 4,307 visits have been made to village homes for individual training
- 25,248 chickens have been vaccinated against Newcastle Disease.



The national team has been hired and a Senior Technical Advisor has been selected by FAO and is awaiting final clearance. The Afghan Development and Culture Organization, was selected as an implementing partner in Kunduz and the Agency for Building New Afghanistan will be working with FAO in Parwan.

Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken

Although 12 women trainers are ready to go in Helmand, project activities could not start due to security problems. Activities in Ghazni have also been postponed due to poor security.

Looking Ahead

In the next quarter, FAO anticipates having the senior technical advisor in place, and the new implementing partners in Parwan up and running. The training of 4,060 women will continue with 2,190 receiving pullets at training's end. 14,000 pullets will be distributed and 9 new woman trainers will be active in Jalalabad.

Comments: Since chicks are only 75 days old production is not expected at this stage.

Security: Training has been held up in Ghazni and Helmand due to security issues.

Potato Seed Distribution and Technical Assistance International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) Period of Performance: 10-Nov-03 to 30-Jun-06 Provinces: Ghazani, Nangarhar, Prawan, Kabul				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#6-0004-ICARDA	10-Nov-03	Abdul Qahar Samin	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$662,891	\$72,118.34	\$72,118.34	\$20,000	\$570,772.66
Project Description: ICARDA and its subcontractors shall provide technical guidance in needs assessment, machinery and equipment needs, purchase of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.				
Expected Results (by end of project): An operational in vitro based seed production laboratory and screen houses established; seed produced through tissue culture available to specific seed farmers. Capacity Building - 1, 000 farmers trained as commercial seed producers; 24 on-farm storages built and used by potato seed growers, resulting in a reduction of seed storage loss. Enhanced Livelihood - 10,000 farm families with increased production and incomes from using virus-free potato seed.				
Accomplishments this Report Seed Production and Multiplication at Farm-Level: One-hundred fourteen farmers in four provinces (Ghazni, Nangarhar, Kunduz, and Parwan) participated in the potato seed production and multiplication program. The farmers received an average of about ½ metric ton of basic seed (Kufri Chandramukhi and Desiree) to be planted on about 1 jerib (0.2 hectare). Farmers were provided fertilizer and trained on the best agronomic practices, including pest and disease control.				
Training and Extension - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aphid monitoring and management course was held at Jabal Saraj and Charikar districts of Parwan on June 15-16. 36 extension workers from Helmand, Kundiz, Ghazni, Parwan and Nangarhar; potato project site coordinators, and farmers attended the course. The practical component of training was conducted at Jabal Saraj and Charikar. Training in monitoring aphid population was held for the extension officers of Agriculture Directorate-Ghazni on June 17. After a theoretical session at ICARDA's office in Ghazni, they were taken to Khwaja Omari district for field training. 10 participants attended the training course. An Integrated Disease Management (IDM) course was held in Center and Bagram districts of Parwan on June 20. 54 participants were trained in identification of virus and disease infected plants, different insect pests and their predators. IDM course was held in Noo Bruj village of Ghazni Province on June 21. 5 extension officers, 40 farmers and Ghazni ICARDA staff attended the course. The farmers were trained to identify fungal and viral diseases, insect pests and control measures of various pests. Participants were also taken to the country potato stores and were briefed about the advantages of these stores over the traditional ones. 4 booklets (CIP Publication) have been published in Pashto and Dari and distributed to extension workers, The booklets are entitled: "Package of Practices for Informal Seed Potato Production", "Improved Agronomic Practices for Potato production in Afghanistan", "Late Blight in Potato", "Aphids, their importance, monitoring and management in seed potato crop". A brochure on best practices for potato cultivation was distributed among 300 farmers and extension workers in Nangarhar, and 100 farmers each in Parwan and Ghazni provinces. Approximately 720 hundred farmers visited the harvesting and grading activities at the 24 potato seed production sites. Extension agent reports from the area indicate more than 80% adoption is expected. 				
Potato Storage Fifteen country stores are under construction in the provinces where potato seeds are being produced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three above ground country stores in Karm Khel Khogiani district (Nangarhar) are nearly completed. 				

- Five country seed storage facilities (CSSF) in Parwan (one each in Jabal Saraj and Siagerd districts, and three in Surkhe Parsa district) are at different stages of construction. Two of the CSSFs are expected to be completed in July and the other three will be ready by early August.
- Of the five proposed country stores in Ghazni (two each in Khwaja Umari district and in Ghazni Center, and one in Qara Bagh district), the CSSF at Khwaja Umari has been completed by more than 60%, while only excavation has been done at the other sites (the building materials, such as bricks and wooden beams, are on their way).
- Two proposed country stores in Khinjan and Slang of Kunduz province are 90% completed.

Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken

Kunduz

- With the help of CIP and CPRI experts, a new insect pest, Colorado leaf beetle, was identified. It is a serious pest of potato worldwide and was found in Baghlan during a trip of ICARDA-Kabul staff to a farmer's field. It has caused some damage to potatoes (especially on Desiree, the red skin variety) in Baghlan. However, Confidor SL 100 was able to control the infestation. Authorities and farmers must be trained to be alert for this beetle as it has caused and continues to cause very severe losses in potatoes grown in neighboring Central Asian countries.
- Farmers expressed their dissatisfaction over the limited number of country stores in the provinces. They expect construction of more stores in their respective communities.

Nangarhar

- *Absence of cold storage in Nangarhar greatly hampers the storage aspect of the potato seed multiplication program. As an alternative and remedial step, potato seed produced in Nangarhar was transported and stored at Khogiani district which has a relatively cooler climate.*

Looking Ahead

ICARDA has the following activities for the next reporting period:

Nangarhar: Monitoring of stored potato seed at Karim Khel Khogiani District

Ghazni: Follow up on irrigation, weed control, earthing up, disease and pest management; Continue aphid monitoring employing two methodologies; Counting number of aphids on one hundred compound leaves.

Parwan: Earthing up; Continue aphid monitoring.
Counting number of aphids on one hundred compound leaves

Kunduz: Analysis of data on aphid monitoring

Kabul: Construction of screen house in Badam Bagh Kabul; Required equipment has arrived at customs at the Kabul airport. Steps are being taken to get the equipment release

Potato Storage and Marketing: Finishing touches to CSSF stores, transportation and storage of potato, regular monitoring and evaluation of stores: Logistics for potato seed marketing training course.

Comments: Production results from the potato seed production sites are needed as soon as possible to be able to convince farmers of the production opportunities when using disease-free potato seed accompanied by best practices. As important, are the needs (1) to convince additional potato seed farmers and other farmers to build improved potato storage facilities, and (2) to assist the potato seed producers in accessing markets for their potato seeds.

ICARDA and CIP have been informed that when their short-term consultants come to work (in training and technical assistance) on the potato project in Afghanistan, they must work for no less than 2 weeks in Afghanistan. Their expertise needs to be demonstrated in the field as well as in a classroom setting.

Security: see ICARDA VBSE report

Village Seed Enterprise Program				
International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)				
Period of Performance: 10-Nov-03 to 30-Jun-06				
Provinces: Nangarhar, Kunduz, Helmand, Parwan, Ghazni				
Job Order No.	Date of Award	Project Manager	USAID CTO	USAID CO
JO#7-0004-ICARDA	10-Dec-03	Abdul Qahar Samin	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
Ceiling Price	Quarter Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Accruals to Date	Balance
\$1,928,063	\$123,920.30	\$123,920.30	\$23,000	\$1,781,142.70
Project Description: ICARDA will develop village based seed enterprises (VBSE) as well as conduct market surveys, needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation. Technical assistance will be provided to selected entrepreneurs on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities, start-up inputs, and business management.				
Expected Results (by the end of project) Capacity Building: 20 village-based seed enterprises developed. Within three years, these enterprises will produce a quantity of 2000 metric tons of good quality seed. Enhanced Livelihood: 40,000 farm families experience increased seed production; Yield of staples (wheat, rice and legumes) increases by 10% over base level.				
Accomplishments this Report Two intensive training programs of three days each were organized in Jalabad and Kunduz provinces. The training in Jalalabad and Kunduz was for village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) members, farmers, and Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry staff from Ghazni, Helmand, and Nangarhar provinces and Parwan, Kapisa, Baghlan, Takhar, and Kunduz provinces, respectively. The training covered cereal and legume seed production technologies, agronomic practices, and enterprise management and was followed by field visits. The project has established four village-based seed enterprises in Kunduz, Nangarhar, Helmand, and Ghazni provinces. Each of the VBSEs contributes land and some other resources in cash or in kind. The VBSEs in Kama District (Nangarhar) and Kunduz are producing seeds of wheat, potato, barley, and rice. ICARDA has organized 15 farmers' groups (Ghazni-1, Helmand-3, Kunduz-6, Nangarhar-4, Parwan-1) as potential VBSEs.				
Ghazani Province <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A nine member enterprise was established in Khoja Omari district, and the members were trained in producing and marketing seed, in cereal and legume seed production technologies, in agronomic practices and in enterprise management. Regular meetings were held with the VBSE members to prepare a plan for crop cultivation in the fall. 				
Nangrahar Province <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline survey was completed and a 15-member VBSE was established in Kama district. The rules and guidelines for operating the enterprise were formulated. The VBSE contributed land and other inputs valuing US\$2,500 while ICARDA provided US\$20,000 (non-RAMP funding) in cash and kind as a startup credit. ICARDA supplied the VBSE with 30 metric tons of seed of three wheat varieties (Roshan 96, Mazar 99, and Amu 99) and 45 metric tons of urea. ICARDA provided the VBSE members with technical guidelines for managing the seed production plots (that cover a total area of 50 hectares). VBSE members participated in field days and were trained in weeding and rouging of wheat fields. Seeds of mung bean (variety Nayab-92) and rice (Kanduz-1) were provided to VBSEs for multiplication purposes. VBSE members were trained in seed production of tomato (the Rio Grand variety). This is one of the most successful varieties grown in the plains of Nangarhar province. Regular meetings were held with the VBSE members to prepare a plan for crop cultivation this fall. 				
Kunduz Province				

- ICARDA completed the baseline survey and assisted in the formation of a VBSE in Chardarah district. The group is very active in seed production of wheat and rice, and has also embarked on potato seed production.
- VBSEs and farmers groups based at Aliabad, Central Kunduz, Chardara, and Khanabad started wheat harvesting in 75 ha.
- Growth of seed potato was monitored in 3 hectares, and the necessary technical support was given.
- VBSEs and farmers groups based in Aliabad, Central Kunduz, Chardarah, and Khanabad produced large quantities of wheat seeds of Amu-99, Lalmi-2 and Ghor-i-96 varieties.
- Negotiations are in an advanced stage with World Vision and Rural Rehabilitation Association for Afghanistan for selling 300 and 50 tons wheat seed, respectively.
- Regular meetings were held with the VBSE members to prepare a plan for crop cultivation this fall.

Helmand Province

- Three VBSEs (each with 15 members) were formally organized in Nad Ali district.
- Regular meetings were held with the VBSE members to assist them in preparing a plan for crop cultivation this fall.

Parwan Province

- Members who will be establishing a VBSE were identified and trained in a 3 day workshop in Kunduz.
- Regular meetings were held with the VBSE members to prepare a plan for crop cultivation this fall.

Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken

- VBSEs in Kunduz have successfully produced a large quantity of wheat seed. However, the unavailability of credit, lack of sufficient storage facilities, poor market opportunities for good quality seeds have not only discouraged the VBSE members but have resulted in their selling some of their seed as food grain.
- VBSEs which have not received working capital (cash or kind) are not in a position to start producing seed on their own. Ways and means have to be explored to arrange working capital/credit for the VBSEs. ICARDA has suggested some money be put aside for the VBSE to use (at least to buy inputs like fertilizers, seed, pesticides and sprayer) in the form of a revolving fund.
- If the VBSE in Kunduz were able to access the services of a combine, the VBSE would increase their wheat plantings for seed production in Kunduz.

Looking Ahead

A major effort will be made at developing business plans with the VBSEs. These business plans will be examined in terms of cash flow and profitability and possibly used by the VBSEs for obtaining credit for purchasing necessary machinery and equipment.

Ghazani, Helmand and Parwan Provinces: Follow up with the trained members of VBSE to activate the enterprise.

Nangarhar Province: Wheat harvesting, threshing, data collection and reporting of results, followed with storage and marketing efforts.

Kunduz Province: Harvesting and threshing of wheat followed by data collection; harvesting and data collection for potato; transplantation of rice and fertilizer application; data collection, storage and marketing of barley.

Comments: ICARDA did not do business plans with the VBSEs before the VBSEs received machinery and equipment on loan from ICARDA. Loan payments on those loans by the VBSEs to ICARDA have not been made. Attention to the need for business plans by VBSEs was given by RAMP to ICARDA.

The VBSEs are initially going to have some difficulty earning enough income from producing seeds of a limited number of crops. The VBSEs will need to be introduced to higher valued seeds and the demand for

those seeds.

Security:

Nangarhar

- Last week of May and the whole month of June was full of violence and attacks on aid workers, NGO and UN staff. The Deputy Chief of Police of Jalalabad was killed in a bomb blast in his own office, and another bomb blast occurred in Khogiani district. Both these places are under ICARDA-RAMP target sites that are frequently visited by ICARDA staff without any security arrangements or feedback on security situation in the area. This is common for all the 5 target provinces

Kunduz

- A bomb blast occurred in a school adjacent to ICARDA Kunduz office

Increasing hostilities against aid workers is a cause of serious concern for the safety and security of ICARDA staff working in 5 RAMP target provinces. Though ICARDA staff maintains very cordial relationship with villagers, it is not enough to guarantee the safety and security. Keeping in view the deteriorating security, means and ways are to be devised to provide security to staff, and protect the future of their dependents in case of any unfortunate event. In absence of budget provision to cover such costs so far no arrangement could be made to take care of such crucial issues. Therefore, it is requested to provide additional budget to cover the above mentioned costs at par with other international agencies. To instil a sense of security and boost the moral of staff it is necessary to provide escorts, insurance, and compensation for the hardship/ risks to which the staff is exposed while working in Afghanistan.

Crop Demonstration Best Practices Project

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Period of Performance: 10-Nov-03 to 30-Jun-06

Provinces: Nangarhar, Kunduz, Helmand, Parwan & Ghazni

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager Contact</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#8-0004-ICARDA	10-Nov-2003	Abdul Qahar Samin	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,899,058.	\$168,971.50	\$168,971.50	\$24,500	\$1,705,586.50

Project Description: ICARDA will develop demonstration plots in farmer's fields throughout the 5 RAMP target provinces to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.

Expected results: It is expected that about 25% of the farmers observing the crop demonstrations and understanding the improved technologies will adopt best practices. The adoption of best practices by farmers will lead to productivity increases of 25-35%. Farmers adopting the best practices are expected to realize higher net incomes per hectare of cultivation of an average of approximately 20%.

Accomplishments this quarter:

Three hundred forty-eight crop demonstrations have been conducted by ICARDA in 27 districts of 5 priority provinces (Kunduz, Parwan, Nangarhar, Ghazni, and Helmand). At each demonstration site of 2000 square meters, best practices, including improved seed varieties, appropriate seed and fertilizer rates, appropriate number of irrigations, and appropriate pest and disease control measures, are being shown and explained to the visiting farmers by the twenty-seven, Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry extension agents working in collaboration with ICARDA staff. Over 300,000 farmers have visited the crop demonstration sites during the growing season of these crops and during the twenty-three field days. RAMP technical staff periodically monitored the progress of the demonstration plots and provided technical support to ICARDA, the extension staff, and participating and visiting farmers.

Ghazni Province

Thirty wheat, ten potato, and ten onion demonstrations and three field days (with an average of 50 visiting farmers) were conducted. Tomato and onion seedlings were grown in plastic tunnels for later transplanting.

- Wheat: Demonstration plots with Gul-96 were monitored and technical support was provided to participating and visiting farmers.
- Potato (Kufri Chandramukhi – KCM): Proposed agronomical measures were taken, and group discussions were arranged with farmers.
- Tomato: Transplanting of seedlings grown in plastic tunnels was delayed due to frost damage and, consequently, the tomato seedlings were not used in demonstration plots.
- Onion: Onion seedlings have been planted.

Helmand Province

Thirty wheat, ten potato, and ten onion demonstrations and five field days (with an average of 70 visiting farmers) were conducted in Lashkargah, Nadi Ali, Greshk, Nawa Barakzai, and Germser districts. Tomato and onion seedlings were raised in a nursery.

- Wheat: The thirty demonstration plots of Amu-99 and Roshan 96 varieties were monitored. Both varieties performed better than the local varieties as they remained comparatively pest-free, and produced high tiller/m² with low fertilizer dose and irrigation frequency. An average of 4.6 metric tons/hectare of wheat was produced on the demonstration plots.
- Potato (KCM): Plant growth, number of tubers/ plant, and size of tubers were monitored at all 10 sites in 5 districts of the province. Fertilizer (DAP and urea) and irrigation was applied, and Furadon was sprayed to control the cutworm. Hand weeding was carried out in all the demonstrations.
- Tomato: Plots were monitored and plants are growing well.
- Onion (Red Creole): Onion seedlings were transplanted to all ten demonstration sites. Demonstration plots remained under observation and so far there are no disease problems. The onions have been irrigated and farmers have been provided the necessary information on plant protection measures.

Nangarhar Province

Thirty-seven wheat, ten potato, five tomato, ten onion, and seventeen rice demonstrations and five field days (with an average of 63 visiting farmers) were conducted.

- Wheat: Harvesting of wheat (Roshan-96 and Amu-99) is completed and threshing is in progress. The average yield of demonstration plots was 4700 Kg/ha.
- Potato (KCM): Agronomical operations were completed according to plan, and harvesting is in progress.
- Tomato: Demonstration plots of the Rio Grand variety of tomato were monitored, plant protection measures were taken, and plots were irrigated. Plants are in fruiting/ maturing stage.
- Onion: Demonstrations were irrigated and weeds were controlled. Plants were in bulb formation stage, and, because precautionary plant protection measures were taken, there were no diseases or insect infestation.
- Rice: Sixty farmers were trained in rice seedling/nursery development. Arrangements were finalized with participating farmers to set up at least seventeen demonstration plots with 'Kunduz-1' and 'Basmati-385' improved seed.

Kunduz Province

Fifty wheat, twelve potato, ten tomato, were irrigated and weeded, pest control measures were taken in potato plots; transplanting of tomato and onion seedlings was completed; and paddy seedlings were grown in nursery.

- Wheat: Demonstration plots of Lalmi-2 and Amu-99 were irrigated, weeded and rouging was completed. Harvesting started at some of the sites.
- Potato (KCM, Desiree): Hand weeding was done, plants were irrigated, and pest control measures were taken. Harvesting started at some of the sites.
- Tomato: Fertilizer and irrigation was applied and plant protection measures (spray of fungicide and insecticide) were taken.
- Onion: Plots were irrigated and fertilizer application was done.
- Rice: Nursery was maintained and transplanting started.



Parwan Province

Thirty wheat, ten potato, five tomato, and ten onion demonstrations were monitored; necessary inputs and technical support were provided in a timely fashion to the participating farmers.

- Wheat: The demonstration plots of Gul-96 were monitored, rouging was done and harvesting was started.
- Potato (KCM): Technical support was provided to participating farmers
- Tomato: Transplanting was completed and plots were irrigated. Earthing up was done and plots were hand weeded.
- Onion: Transplanting was completed and plots were irrigated and weeded

Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken

Ghazni, Nangarhar, and Kunduz provinces experienced a late frost and other adverse weather conditions which adversely affected the wheat yield.

Looking Ahead

The following activities are scheduled for the crops in each province.

Ghazni Province

Wheat: Weed control, rouging, and data collection. Potato: Fertilizer application, earthing up, plant protection and aphid monitoring. Tomato: Transplanting, irrigation, plant protection, and monitoring. Onion: Transplanting, irrigation, fertilizer application and weeding

Helmand Province

Wheat: Threshing, data collection and analysis. Potato: Harvesting and data collection
Tomato: Irrigation, field day, plant selection for seed, and harvesting. Onion: Irrigation, bulb selection for seed, and

harvesting

Nangarhar Province

Wheat: Threshing and data collection. Potato: Harvesting and data collection. Tomato: Ongoing monitoring. Onion: Irrigation, weeding, urea application and farmers field days. Rice: Land preparation for transplanting, monitoring and reporting. Mung beans: Land preparation, seed distribution, and irrigation to participating farmers.

Kunduz Province

Wheat: Rouging, harvesting, threshing, and data collection. Potato: Plant protection, harvesting, data collection, grading, storage and marketing. Tomato: Irrigation, weeding, monitoring and harvesting
Onion: Irrigation, weeding and pest control. Rice: Transplanting, irrigation, weeding, application of fertilizer and distribution of fertilizer to farmers. Mung beans: Seed distribution to farmers for multiplication, planting and irrigation

Parwan Province

Wheat: Harvesting, data collection and analysis. Potato: Fertilizer application, earthing up, plant protection, aphid monitoring and training. Tomato: Irrigation, weeding, monitoring and field inspection. Onion: Transplanting, irrigation and weeding

Comments: The high average yield on the wheat demonstration sites in Helmand and Nangarhar has brought with it much interest from visiting farmers. Similar results are expected also in Kunduz province. ICARDA needs to be holding more field days for demonstrating the best practices for all the crops. ICARDA also needs to include more of the surrounding villages' elders and leaders to the field days. During field days, ICARDA must give the participating farmers a greater chance to express their views of the demonstration and its potential impact.

Security: ICARDA has had some relatively close calls in the field. ICARDA has requested additional security for its project staff when working in the field in the more insecure districts of the provinces.

Introducing Protected Agriculture in Marginal and Water Deficient Areas

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Life of Project: November 10, 2003 – June 30, 2003

Provinces: Nangarhar, Kunduz, Helmand, Parwan & Ghazni

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#9-0004-ICARDA	10-Nov-03	Abdul Qahar Samin	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,624,845	\$95,971.49	\$95,971.49	\$18,500	\$1,510,373.51

Project Description: ICARDA is introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.

Expected results (by end of project):

Capacity Building - Establishment of one private sector plastic greenhouse fabrication shop; Establishment of 25 independent greenhouse enterprises.

Enhanced Livelihood - At least five fold increase in the production of cash crops compared to open field production system; 1.2Ha land under greenhouse technology; Farm families participating in the greenhouse systems of production will experience at least a three fold increase in annual net returns on a per hectare basis.

Accomplishments this quarter:

- Dubai to Kabul. Construction materials for three of the greenhouses will be used to establish the protected agriculture center (PAC) and the other construction materials used for installing the five greenhouses with the farmers. ICARDA's Kabul office remains in the process of clearing materials through customs. The Minister of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry is personally intervening to get released the consignment at earliest. ICARDA-Kabul office is consistently following the matter so that the installation of 8 greenhouses in Protected Agriculture Centers and farmer's fields, and trainings could start according to the new schedule.
- Training materials and manuals in Dari and English on greenhouse installation and crop production are being developed to be used in the training programs in July and August.
- Preliminary contacts were made with farmers for selecting greenhouse sites in farmers' fields.
- Quotations for seeds required to plant in protected agriculture centers and five other greenhouses in farmers' fields have been collected and purchase orders were processed through ICARDA Head Quarters.
- Conducted assessment of 200 member 'Cooperative' that manages and maintains the Vegetable and Fruit Market in Kabul, and enforces the prices fixed by the municipality.
- Collection of vegetable price information in wholesale markets in Kabul continued on a daily basis during the quarter. A database on the wholesale prices was set up. In addition, the past two years of wholesale prices and margins of vegetables in Kabul wholesale markets were collected from the Price Control and Marketing Department of Kabul Municipality. The price information is being used to determine the best market opportunities in Kabul for selling off season tomatoes.
- Collected relevant meteorological data from the target provinces.
- Conducted interviews with whole sellers and retailers of various vegetable markets in the city (Shahr-e-no, Makroryan, Pul-e-Kheshti and Kot-e-sangi) to understand basic structure and functioning of Kabul vegetable markets.

Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken

- Non-availability of trained personnel, shortage of even simple inputs in the local market, and non-reliable nature of

the locally available supply were some of the serious challenges forcing the project to rely more and more on import which proved a time taking process

- A substantial increase in steel prices globally and a low budget allocated for greenhouse purchase caused hardships in sourcing reliable material at low prices which was again a time consuming process. The project finally overcame the problem at the expense of time that delayed the inter-related activities (establishment of protected agriculture center, installation of greenhouses in farmers fields, and training the trainers and growers in greenhouse installation, maintenance, crop production and its management)
- Collection of daily data from fruit and vegetable market in Kabul was difficult because of the incentives required by the market peoples, and unavailability of the staff. These problems have been solved by the approval of incentives to the market personnel and by employing local technicians to facilitate procedures.

Looking Ahead

- From July 15 through August 5, a benchmark study with the selected farmers will be conducted by ICARDA's agricultural economist. The report on the baseline study will be completed during the quarter.
- The first training course on greenhouse installation and crop production will be held at the PAC from July 26-30th. Over 20 trainers (project stakeholders including the project staff and ICARDA Kabul personnel) will be attending the course. This will be followed in early August by a second course (same topic only more hands-on) for growers and extension agents.
- The newly-arrived, greenhouse construction materials will be used in the training session to construct three greenhouses at the PAC. Planting of vegetables will be done during the second training session.
- In September, the Integrated Production and Protection Management training course will be conducted at the PAC for the trainers, extension agents, and farmers.
- Identification, negotiation and signing contracts with 5 farmers in Kabul who will own the greenhouses. Five greenhouses will be installed in their fields by project staff in collaboration with consultants
- Continue training programs for local technicians in greenhouse installation and crop production.

Comments:

The difficulties in purchasing the greenhouse equipment significantly delayed all project activities, including training, and extension exercises. ICARDA met with RAMP to discuss these delays, and re-structured the project's workplan for the upcoming months. RAMP expects no further delays on this project.

Security: see #7 ICARDA Village Based Seed Enterprise Report

Shamali Plains Road Upgrade
Agence d'aide a la Cooperation et au Developpement (ACTED)
Period of Performance: 01-Dec-03 to 15-Jan-05
Provinces: Kabul, Kapisa, Parwan

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#10-0002-ACTED	01-Dec-03	Ibrahim Sultani	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$729,255	\$180,921	\$180,921	\$37,612	\$510,722

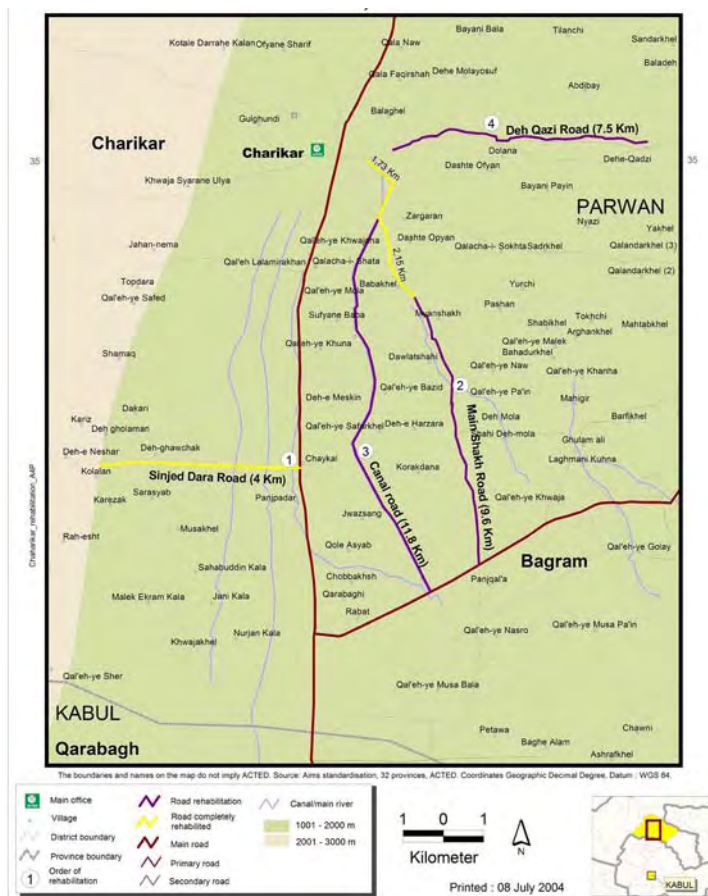
Project Description: ACTED will rehabilitate the Main Shakh and the Nahri Charikar tertiary roads and the Nahri Charikar canal irrigation system in Shamali Plains to increase market access to areas receiving improved irrigation.

Accomplishments this quarter:

Work commenced on April 15. Once logistics were taken care of, ACTED has been working at a rate of approximately 200m completed road each day.

Base camps set-up, staff and workers hired.
 Five-day technical survey was completed.

- In June we continued with work on the Main Shakh Road which has already been started. Details of the work may be found illustrated in the table below.
- Parallel to the construction work on the Main Shakh Road, we also been working on its neighbour, the Canal Road.
- The labourers working on the roads are invariably from local communities. Our engineers provide education and practical guidance to these workers on road maintenance.



Main Shakh Road - Work commenced on 15 April.

- Set up base camp, moved necessary equipment and gathered our workers for 2 days.
- Conducted a technical survey for 5 days.

Nahri Charikar Canal – flows from the Bamyan Valley, fed by the Ghorband River, it is one of the most important water sources in Shamali plains. It irrigates approximately 6 valleys, at an estimated 7,000 hectares. ACTED has finished the survey and started widening the canal. During the month of April:

- ACTED widened the Canal by a total of 1m (from 5m to 6m) for a total of 0.45 km;
- Constructed 3 irrigation outlets;
- Trained a total of 20 members of the community in canal management.

45m retaining wall:

- o Foundations completed;
- o Approximately one third of the total building work completed, including stone masonry and pointing (see Annex II for details)

100m retaining wall

- o Work has just begun on the retaining wall.

The Nahri Charikar Canal flows from the Bamyan Valley. Fed by the Ghorband River, it is one of the most important water sources in Shamali plains. It irrigates approximately 6 valleys, at an estimated 7,000 hectares (see map). Last month we finished the survey, and this month we started widening the canal. During the month of June we completed the following tasks on the Nahri Charikar Canal.



MAIN SHAKH ROAD	Work in June (km)	Previous Work (km)	Total Work (km)
Drainage	0.21	1.94	2.15
Cutting, Filling	0.89	3.43	4.32
Camber	0.21	1.94	2.15
Gravel Applic.	1.13	1.12	2.15
Compaction	1.13	1.12	2.15
Completed Road	1.13	1.12	2.15
CANAL ROAD	Work in June (km)	Previous Work (km)	Total Work (km)
Drainage	+++	+++	+++
Cutting, Filling	2.48	1.46	3.94
Camber	1.20	1.46	2.66
Gravel Applic.	1.53	0.2	1.73
Compaction	1.53	0.2	1.73
Completed Road	1.53	0.2	1.73

Cleaning and Widening the Canal

We have continued to clean and widen the Canal. The plan is to clean the bottom of the Canal, and to widen it by 1m all the way along its length. The table below shows, first of all, the length of Canal cleaned, and second, the amount of earth that has been removed in the widening and cleaning process.

		Cleaning of Canal	Widening of Canal	Removal of Earth
Work completed in June	(m)	200	200	N/a
	(m ³)	400	N/a	520
Work completed previously	(m)	1300	1300	N/a
	(m ³)	7040	N/a	1540
Total Work Completed	(m)	1500	1500	n/a
	(m³)	7440	N/a	2060

Canal Retaining Walls

A vital part of the Nahri Charikar Canal involved the construction of retaining walls. A total of 145m of retaining walls are to be built, split up and spread over various locations as required. We are at present working on two of the retaining walls, the largest (45m) and a smaller retaining wall at the Parchawai Charikar Stream.

Right: The 45m retaining wall at the end of its construction.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

Sabotage of roadwork delayed progress until the individual was identified and apprehended by authorities – see “Security”

Looking Ahead

- 1) Continue work on Canal Road and Main Shakh Road
- 2) For the Nahri Charikar Canal: finish the 45 meter retaining wall, and clean and widen the canals

Comments

ACTED has been performing reliably, as reflected in this report. The work being implemented is of good quality according to inspections performed by RAMP engineers. ACTED is also putting the finishing touches on their 5 market collections centers.

Security

An Afghan individual was repeatedly wrecking the pointing work being done. After the work had been redone several times, the staff was able to identify the individual who was pointed out to relevant authorities. He was apprehended and the sabotage ceased.

In general, security in Parwan has been good.

Security

An Afghan individual was repeatedly wrecking the pointing work being done. After the work had been redone several times, the staff was able to identify the individual who was pointed out to relevant authorities. He was apprehended and the sabotage ceased.

In general, security in Parwan has been good.

Kanday Road Reconstruction
Mission d'Aide au Developement des Economies Rurales en Afghanistan (MADERA)
Period of Performance: 15-Dec-03 – 25-Jun-04
Provinces: Kunar

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#11-002-MADERA	15-Dec-03	Khodaidad	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$448,131	\$339,810	\$339,810	\$108,321	\$0.00

Project Description: MADERA has rehabilitated a collapsed section of the Kanday road, connecting Jalalabad and Assadabad, and constructed a protection wall, diversion canal and gabion dike to prevent erosion of the road during flood periods.

Expected Results (at end of project):

Enhanced Livelihood – 500,000 farm families with increased access to markets; 5,100 Hectares receiving improved irrigation; and 6,850 person-days of employment.

Accomplishments this quarter:

Gabion foundation: Completed

Gabions work: Completed

Back filling: Completed

Road repair: Completed

Looking ahead:

MADERA is now monitoring the Gabion and dumped rock, one ton average, protection at the most vulnerable point of the fill.



The road and protection wall after construction

Comments:

Security:

Market Based Production Project

Agence d'aide a la Cooperation et au Developpement (ACTED)

Period of Performance: 21-Dec-03 to 30-Jun-06

Provinces: Parwan, Kapisa, and Kabul

Job Order No.	Date of Award	Project Manager	USAID CTO	USAID CO
JO#12-0004-ACTED	21-Dec-04	Abdul Qahar Samin	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
Ceiling Price	Quarter Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Accruals to Date	Balance
\$1,800,000	\$112,242.06	\$112,242.06	\$25,000	\$1,662,757.94

Project Description: ACTED will work with farmers in the Shomali Plains to rehabilitate orchards and vineyards, establish nurseries, develop fruit processing by constructing innovative low-tech facilities (greenhouses, solar dryers and storage warehouses) as income-generating activities with a priority on women's involvement.

Expected Results

1. Capacity Building: 3 agriculture cooperatives revitalized; The management and technical competency of 90 DCC members, 16 technicians and 10 cooperative members enhanced through sustained training; 3 women DCCs established and 430 women access the coops: 70 women trained in income generating and small business activities; Agriculture best practices spread among 1,500 persons (1,070 men and 430 women)

2. Enhanced Livelihood: 385Ha vineyards and orchards revitalized with the provision of rootstocks and saplings; Average fruit productivity increased by 35% and total marketable output by 40%; Input supplied for 1,200 ha of land to plant with cereals and vegetables; Average cereal and vegetable productivity increased, respectively, by 25% and 15%; 1,290 cooperative members double their income; 102 households double their income by constructing greenhouses for seasonal vegetables

Accomplishments this Report

Creating the Cooperatives: ACTED has been working to build cooperatives and to make them into healthy independent institutions. Supporting activities include:

- Reforming the Qarabagh District Cooperative Center (DCC), which is now officially registered with the Department of Agriculture under the name of Surqech. It will operate under the RAMP umbrella
- ACTED's gender team actively disseminated information on women's participation in the cooperatives, on community mobilization and on the preliminary cooperative registration. Community contacts were established and women were sounded out on the cooperative in five villages (Demollaisof, Bayan Olja, Qallin Khoja, Sofijan and Khoja Saryan). To date, 108 women have registered with cooperatives in Chaikar. ACTED has conducted research focused on:
 - cooperatives and women's inclusion, and in particular women-headed households;
 - women's interest in greenhouse construction and development on their land;
 - women's agricultural interests and what they feel will be plausible and profitable.
 Following the research's completion, we will draft rules and regulations as a formal framework for the women's participation.
- *Facilitated training programs for cooperative Boards of Directors focusing on:*
 - *The role of the cooperatives, their function and their objectives;*
 - *The responsibilities of the Board of Directors and the Administrative Team within the Cooperative;*
 - *Best manner of conducting a meeting;*
 - *The role, function and importance of agendas and minutes;*
 - *Basic book-keeping and accountancy practices.*

Greenhouse/Collection Center Construction

- Built one greenhouse and one improved (double wall) greenhouse at the Charikar cooperative site.
- Built two demonstration greenhouses next to the Qarabagh cooperatives. The greenhouses are nearly finished. A low cost solution has been favored by setting a greenhouses based on the wall of the compound, the other greenhouses is an improved (simple wall) greenhouse (right).
- The design for the greenhouses to be built in Kohistan has already been prepared. Construction will begin early in next quarter.
- Construction continued on five collection centers (10m x 4m): Parwan (3), Koja Sayaran (1), Totumdara Bala (1). All collection centers are being built on the main highway linking Kabul to the North, and thus provide ideal focal

points for farmers from the entire surrounding area.

Marketing: June marked the end of the mulberry harvest. The next harvests – apricot and tomato – will be in July. Marketing activities included:

- *Completion of a work-plan, coordinating the activities of ACTED's staff and subcontractors*
- Conducted a dry product market survey of Charikar and in Kabul.
- Conducted vegetable survey, specifically for non-seasonal greenhouses.
- Contact was made with one commercial enterprise in Dubai, interested in trading between Afghanistan, UAE and Europe. Showed interest in sample dried produce.
- Liaised with other RAMP partners, such as Roots of Peace and Development Works Canada to coordinate activity and leverage marketing contacts.
- Launched a pilot study to test the market for good quality and well-packaged fresh mulberries for direct sale to three up-market retail stores. ACTED provided coordinated supply, advice and appropriate tools in picking and sorting and grading, appropriate packaging and transport to market.
- Market vegetables prices were collected in both main bazaars of Shamali (Charikar and Qarabagh) as well as in the Kabul markets. The data was compiled. At present no meaningful analysis is yet possible, because the study has only been ongoing for the past three months: the data collection must be an ongoing process, collected month by month.

Agriculture Technical Assistance: ACTED's agronomist team, which works in partnership with extensionists from the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, is working with over 60 local farmers on an ongoing basis to:

- Transfer lessons of each the farmers new agricultural techniques;
- Provide constant trouble-shooting advice;
- Bring new techniques to the communities. Through their high visibility, the demonstration plots will form a channel through which we will inform the communities of new techniques and agricultural best practices;
- Launch trial crops and experimental varieties of crops.

Maize Production: The primary task at the end of this quarter was to introduce productive maize varieties to the farmers of the Shamali. In order adequately to implement the introduction of maize into the communities, ACTED carried out the following activities:

- Agricultural experts held discussions with the technical experts in CIMMYT, and after liaison with ISRA (an NGO with extensive agricultural experience)
- Isolated the Pahari variety of maize as the strain with the greatest potential yield.
- Procured 90kg of Pahari seed from Pakistan.
- Distributed this 90 kg of Pahari seed to 11 farmers in Kapisa and 25 farmers in Charikar, along with a further 294 kg local seed.
- 5 kg of special CV6 seed was distributed to Abdul Ghafoor, a demonstration plot owner in Kapisa, for experimental purposes.
- In Charikar a total of 112 farmers from the demonstration plots and the wider community received training in how to prepare the land correctly for maize, how to plant the maize and what the best practices are for the application of fertilizer.

Extension Workers visiting farmers: Agricultural extension workers continue to visit their demonstration plot owners on a regular basis. They are supported in this by agronomists, who provide additional expertise. The purpose is to ensure that the demonstration plots remain a good example for the farmers in the surrounding community.

Field Days and Farmer Training: Are designed to raise the awareness of the surrounding communities in our demonstration plots, which form the showcases for the new techniques and agricultural inputs introduced by our agronomists and extension workers.

In addition to the plantation of maize, training this month addressed a number of different agricultural methods and best practices:

- Controlling of disease on vines. In Qarabagh, 68 farmers received practical training in this regard, while in Charikar a further 20 were taught;
- Supporting vines, using support sticks and wire;
- Best methods of preparing land for planting vegetables.
- Importance of weeding and maintenance of the site;
- Best irrigation and land preparation practices.

Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken

None to report this period.

Looking Ahead

During the next quarter ACTED will proceed with activities in the following areas:

Grassroots Marketing Study: To assure cooperatives market their produce as successfully as possible, and are as profitable as possible, ACTED will expand activities beyond the simple fresh and dry products dictated by the supply constraints of the Shamali Plain. Will launch a comprehensive demand-driven market test. This will help us develop a strategy for the long-term marketing goals of the project and the cooperative, particularly by isolating

Woman's Workshop: Implement a women's workshop in the Shamali Plain. The aim of this workshop would be to raise women's awareness and knowledge of vegetable production, seedling production and fruit processing as income generating activities. This would emphasize the possibility of active involvement.

Structuring the Cooperatives: Enhance member registration procedures, and implement systematic teaching process, to ensure that the farmers are aware of what they are joining. It is particularly important to be clear on what benefits the farmers can expect. Farmers joining the cooperative must be aware that the cooperative is providing services, such as marketing expertise and processing equipment, rather than free or heavily discounted agricultural inputs.

Reorient Agricultural Extensionists: Orient training and the provision of agricultural services more towards the cooperatives. Separate the roles of the agricultural extensionists into, on the one hand, the provision of extension work, and, on the other hand, community mobilization.

Agricultural Training: In addition to continued field days visiting demonstration plots, and ad hoc training dictated by the situation in the field, several specific training sessions have been planned for July:

- One day training course in horticulture, with emphasis on vineyards. Topics to be covered include the preparation of vine nurseries, pruning, use of wooden sticks.
- Training on identifying common pests and diseases, and how they may be controlled
- Daily training and advising sessions in cucumber (harvesting, storage, and marketing processes). Training in the nutritional benefits of vegetables
- Practical training in topping and de-leafing for 7 direct beneficiaries in Qarabagh, and 8 direct beneficiaries in Charikar

Comments:**Security:**

Livestock Health, Production, and Marketing Improvement Program

Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA)
Life of Project: January 6, 2004 - June 30, 2005
Province: Nationwide

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#13-0004-DCA	06-Jan-04	Thomas Fattori	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$7,673,062	\$465,368	\$465,368	\$104,000	\$7,103,694

Project Description: This project will create a national network of private veterinary field units (VFU) capable of providing livestock health services in all 380 districts of Afghanistan. DCA will also train sufficient numbers of para-veterinarians (paravets) to staff and service the national network, and create a livestock health, production, and marketing information system that link this private paravet network with government departments on such issues as disease surveillance, livestock inventories, and trans-border issues.

Expected Results (by end of project):

Capacity Building – 360 financially sustainable VFUs established; 540 paravets trained

Enhanced Livelihood – Annual livestock population increased by 10%; 2 Million farm families with increased food security.

Accomplishments this Quarter

Outputs from Veterinary Field Units:

- To date, DCA and its partners have collectively vaccinated/treated a total of 2,296,578 animals.
- All the regional offices of DCA and their partners continued their activities in surveillance and support of the veterinary field units.
- A new recording and administration system has been introduced, and several Early Warning Reports of serious contagious diseases came to the DCA office from the field, including reports of rabies, anthrax, foot and mouth disease and peste des petits ruminants (PPR). All of these outbreaks were reported to the Veterinary Department at the MAAH.

Governmental and Inter-Agency Relations:

A protocol was signed on June 30, 2004 between DCA and with the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry (MAAH) which provides a regulatory framework for implementation of the RAMP-project by DCA and its partners under the authority of the MAAH. This protocol will facilitate coordination of veterinary activities conducted by the RAMP project and the Veterinary Department, to enhance communication between RAMP implementing agencies and the Veterinary Department, and to foster compliance by RAMP with the laws and regulations governing veterinary activities in Afghanistan.

Training activities:

- At the DCA Veterinary Training centre in Herat two refresher courses for paravets were held: one on “Common Infectious Diseases” and a second one on “Veterinary Pharmacology”.
- A work plan on the training activities of the three DCA training centers for the period June 2004 – June 2005 has been developed and is currently under review for final approval within DCA.

Vaccine and Medicine distribution:

- Discussions held with project partners regarding the establishment of a new, privatized organization, known as VetServ, for the distribution of vaccines, medicines and instruments to the Veterinary Field Units.
- There is a good stock of relevant vaccines for distribution, with 4,568,000 doses of vaccine on hand in the central cold store at the Afghan Vaccine Production Laboratory (AVPL) in Kabul. However, some specific vaccines types are absent, including Hemorrhagic Septicemia (HSV), Blackleg and Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP).
- A shipment of medicines from Eurovet in the Netherlands is due to arrive in Herat soon.
- A total of 3,550,795 vaccine doses have been distributed.

Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken

During this reporting period, DCA experienced a number of challenges with regards to governmental relations

DCA was summoned to the office of the Minister of Planning for a meeting on June 3, 2004. DCA was told that this meeting was an informational meeting for the Minister to review the credentials and activities of NGOs. All the NGOs present were involved in animal health activities – DCA, PRB, Solidarities, and Oxfam. The meeting began with the presentation of a long list of complaints to the Minister of Planning about the alleged misconduct of NGOs working in the animal health sector. The Minister of Planning then ordered all the NGOs present to reach a written accord or protocol within two weeks of that meeting in defense of these accusations.

During the last half of June, DCA received orders from the Ministry of Planning and from the Ministry of Interior to cease operations. In addition, the Governor of Parwan ordered the closure of our Charikar Training Centre during the last week of June. In both cases, DCA management was able to obtain a delay in the closure orders, and ultimately fended off the closures by signing a protocol agreement with the MAAH.

Under the RAMP contract, DCA ordered six new project vehicles. These vehicles now have arrived in Afghanistan Customs in Herat, but their release requires a letter of permission from the Ministry of Planning. Unfortunately the Minister of Planning announced a restriction on the importation of new vehicles by NGOs just days before the arrival of these vehicles in Herat. DCA is currently trying to receive a letter of no objection from the Ministry of Planning as well as a duty free exemption letter from the Ministry of Finance.

Note: As of this report the letter was obtained and the vehicles have been cleared from customs in Herat.

Looking Ahead

- Field activities will be ongoing with regard to supply of VFUs and provision of veterinary services to animal owners.
- A paravet refresher training course will begin in Charikar on July 18 to provide continuing education for DVMs and paravets of Solidarites.
- Three vacancy announcements were released in June: one for the National Programme Veterinarian based at DCA Kabul office, one for the Regional Programme Veterinarian in Mazar-i-Sharif and the third vacancy for Assistant Storekeeper in Kabul. The recruitment procedure will be completed in July.
- The first Steering Committee meeting between DCA/RAMP and MAAH will be held in July to begin the important work of harmonizing public – private sector cooperation in veterinary service delivery.

Comments:

Project manager recognizes DCA is staffing-up and progressing well. DCA have been very constructive thus far, and is working to strengthen relations with the MAAH, to further coordinate national veterinary activities.

Security:

The security situation for travelling at many places has worsened, especially in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, Ghost, Faryab, Mazar-i-Sharif, Kunduz, Logar, Nanghanar, Jalalabad, because of ambushes, assaults and robberies. Due to these increasing security problems, we face mounting difficulties in the distribution of vaccines and medicines, as well as in the timely monitoring and receipt of reports from Veterinary Field Units in these troubled areas.

Bridge Construction in Aga Khil
Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan (AREA)
Period of Performance: 07-Jan-04 to 15-Feb-04
Provinces: Wardak

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#14-0002-AREA	7-Jan-04	Saroj Basnyet	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$2,454	\$0.00	\$2,454	\$0	\$0

Project Description: AREA reconstructed the bridge (24 meters long, 3 meters high with 42 culverts) near Aga Khil in Wardak which connected Ghazni-Hazarajat market centers. This project was begun under AQIPS and completed under RAMP in January 2004

Projected Impact: reliable access to markets for families Wardak and Ghazni

Accomplishments This Report

The Aga Khil bridge was constructed and completed on time.

More than 60 vehicles are currently using the bridge every day. People from Ghazni area now have an easy access to market centres at Jalatu and Torshigau together with Razni and District Bazar.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

Looking ahead:

Comments:

This project was completed according to specifications and approved.

Investments on this bridge has led to substantial savings in vehicle operating costs and the reduction of traveling time of people due to the substitution of non-vehicular and vehicular transport mode.

Security: nothing to report

**Construction of Three Dams for Shamali Plains
Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA)
Period of Performance: 31-Dec-03 31-Jan-04
Provinces: Parwan**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#15-0002-RAFA	7-Jan-04	Ibrahim Sultani	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$2746	\$0.00	\$2746	\$	\$0

Project Description: RAFA has completed the reconstruction of three water diversion dams along the Ghorband River. This project was begun under AQIPS and completed under RAMP.

Projected Impact:

18,000 hectares of land provided with a reliable source of water

Accomplishments this report:

Project Completed

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

Looking Ahead



Comments

Security

Rehabilitation of Irrigation Canals in Parwan
Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA)
Life of Project: 01-Feb-04 to 31-Dec-04
Provinces: Parwan

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#16-0002-RAFA	21-Jan-04	Ibrahim Sultani	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$800,000.	\$119,427.9	\$119,427.9	\$108,463	\$655,572.10

Project Description: RAFA is rehabilitating and constructing six new water diversion dams along the Salang and Ghorband rivers to divert water to six canals that provide water for most of the agricultural land in Parwan.

Expected Results (by end of project)

Enhanced Livelihood:

- 3380ha new land brought into cultivation
- 23,543 workers employed and US\$78,279 paid in wages
- 12, 000 families benefited

Accomplishments this quarter:

Based on approved technical specifications RAFA accomplished the following major activities this quarter:

- Excavation of Foundation: 2826 Cu.m
- Construction of Temporary diversion structures: 952 Cu.m
- Dewatering of excavated foundation: 1100 hours
- Construction of temporary access to the river beds for materials supply: 100 Cu.m
- Provision of stone, sand and gravel: 150/400 Cu.m

RAFA has made considerable progress on the Belawdan and Barq Canal Intakes. Because of the depth of sediment in the river bed and its composition, it was decided to increase the depth of the foundations for both of the structures (Barq to 6 meters of depth and Belawdan to 5 meters).



Market Produce Collection Centers

RAFA has also successfully completed construction of collection centers in four locations based on specifications provided by RAMP.

It was necessary to work closely with the community elders and local authorities to find land in strategic locations for the placement of the centers near farm to market roads. Because of local support for the market centers, land was made available at no cost for building in the following locations in Parwan:

1. Matak Village
2. Qala-e-Baqi village
3. Polak-e-Chobi
4. Pushta-e-Surk



Approximately 37 villages and 5,300 farming families and shopkeepers will benefit from these facilities for facilitating transport of produce to main or local markets.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

Constant water seepage, huge boulders that require blasting, and the steep slope of the river were among the major challenges encountered during the process of excavation and delivery of materials to the sites. To overcome these difficulties, RAFA efforts included:

- Construction of several temporary diversion dams in the main channel of the rivers to provide a secure working environment.
- To dewater the foundation excavations, RAFA installed several water pumps operating nearly 24 hours a day.
- For conveyance of construction materials to the project site, RAFA constructed secondary routes and pedestrian bridges at several locations along the river.

Looking Ahead

During the next reporting period, RAFA will carry out stone masonry work, placement of mass concrete, PCC and gabion works for construction of Belawdan and Barq Canal intakes as per approved designs. They also will continue with excavation of foundations.

Comments

Rehabilitation of these dams is an important component of RAMP efforts to restore traditional irrigation systems of this area. It is worth noting that agricultural and irrigation systems of the area were heavily damaged during the years of the Taliban regime. Rehabilitation of these irrigation systems is a high priority of GOA and the international community.

Security

A mine was located near a structure on the Bakhshi canal which compelled RAFA to cancel planned activities until the entire area could be de-mined and declared safe for construction. Work continues on other activities while demining is in progress.

Road Rehabilitation in Balkh Province
Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan (AREA)
Period of Performance: 01-Jan-04 to 31-Dec-04
Provinces: Balkh

Job Order No.	Date of Award	Project Manager	USAID CTO	USAID CO
JO#17-0002-AREA	17-Feb-04	Saroj Basnyet	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
Ceiling Price	Quarter Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Accruals to Date	Balance
\$1,242,867	\$302,527.20	\$302,527.20	\$55,000	\$885,339.80

Project Description: AREA will rehabilitate 100 km of tertiary roads in Balkh province including construction of culverts, drainages, and other road structures.

Expected Results (at end of project):

Enhanced Livelihood – 83,000 farm families with increased access to markets; 114,239 person-days of employment.



Accomplishments this quarter:

The roads in this area were so frequently completely impassable that the locals tell of ruined agricultural produce, wedding parties spending the night on the side of the road and women not having access to health centers when giving birth.

Work is progressing rapidly and the villages of Rubatak, Moymubarak, Dehrazi and Hessarak are already benefiting from the improved roads and access to the main markets. A retaining wall on the side of Chimtal road has been constructed in Hesarak village, to protect against the flooding which would cause the road to be completely blocked. RAMP engineers have conducted a site visit to confirm quality standards.

Road name	Working specification	Worked	Planned
Langarkhana	Rework and sub-grade improvement	4 Km	20 Km
	Leveling and compaction	3 Km	20 Km
	Gravelling and compaction	3 Km	20 Km
	Structure construction	3 Km	20 Km
	Drainage digging	4 Km	20 Km
Chimtal	Rework and sub-grade improvement	10 Km	18 km
	Drainage digging	4 Km	18 Km
Yang-Arigh	Rework and sub-grade improvement	8 Km	10 Km
	Gravelling and compaction	7 Km	18 km
	Leveling and compaction	8 Km	10 Km

	Gravelling and compaction	7 Km	10 Km
	Structure construction	7 Km	10 Km
	Drainage digging	9 Km	10 Km

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

As with all road work, acquiring the rights of way necessary for clearing and widening the road area is always difficult. These problems were resolved through meetings with local people and leaders. In this area, there is a good labor market, so local wages have risen from US\$2 to \$3.5 a day. Skilled and experienced labor is hard to come by. Increased recruiting efforts were necessary to assemble a full crew.

Looking Ahead

Having overcome the difficulties with project start-up, stated above, the work is progressing rapidly and AREA anticipates making better progress in the upcoming month.

Comments

AREA is gaining substantial experience in the construction of rural roads. The California Bearing Ratio of these roads ranged from 57 to 78 percent indicating that their structural properties were satisfactory. The traffic level on Chemtal road is higher than 200 vehicles per day leading to high savings in vehicle operating costs. Chemtal and Yangi-Arigh roads have been built through the use of 9,996 and 11,162 man-days, respectively, of employment from the population of the catchment area.

Security – nothing to report

Rehabilitation of Irrigation Systems and Water Management Reconstruction and Social Services for Afghanistan (RSSA)

Period of Performance: 17-Feb-04 to 1-Aug-05

Provinces: Nangarhar

Job Order No.	Date of Award	Project Manager	USAID CTO	USAID CO
JO#18-0002-RSSA	17-Feb-04	Ibrahim Sultani	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
Ceiling Price	Quarter Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Accruals to Date	Balance
\$1,853,549	\$235,310.60	\$385,310.60	\$75,000	\$1,393,238.40

Project Description: RSSA is rehabilitating channels, protection works against overland flood flows from mountain streams, and diversion structures in the tail reach of the Nangarhar canal system.

Expected Results (at end of project):

Enhanced Livelihood – restoration of irrigation supply to 6,000 hectares of farm land that have been out of production for several years as well as firming up supply to another two distributaries that have experienced greatly reduced deliveries due to canal breaches along a dry floodway. More than 6,000 farm families will be benefited.

Accomplishments this report:

Excavation for retaining wall - 93% complete

Stone masonry work for the retaining wall – 22% complete

RSSA is slightly (8%) behind schedule on the retaining wall due to difficulty locating good quality stone, sand and gravel.

Work resumed on the retaining wall after nearly a month of delay while the design was changed.

- Similarly filling behind the retaining wall embankments exceeded 3500 m³.

2. Protection Wall

- The wide embankment being built along the main canal has been nearly completed since heavy duty machines weighing 18 MT have been brought to site.

3. Main Canal

- The laying of the RCC pipes for the Siphon has been completed. It now remains to test the siphon for leakage and to build the upstream protection works and the fill protection blanket in the stream bed.
- Dressing of the side slopes of the main canal continued.

Market Establishment

The Muhammad-Dara market has been built. It has provided the local farming community with a fixed facility for the selling of agricultural produce under much improved conditions over ad hoc open market operations.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

- Non-availability of clean, good quality of stone in the project vicinity has hampered progress.



Looking Ahead

1. Completion of village profiles
2. Continue the holding of meetings with target beneficiaries.
3. Yet to conduct a case study on the future hope of the community members towards the intervention.
4. Reconstruct the canal breached at three sections along the dry wash channel. The canal has been realigned along the dry wash channel behind a reinforced project built local road embankment.

Comments

The project is somewhat behind schedule, but the contractor has engaged more people and machines to speed up production to build key flood protection works before the onset of possible September rains.

Security

Repair of the Ghazni - Meray Access Road
Engineering Services for Afghanistan Reconstruction (ESAR)
Period of Performance: 01-Mar-04 to 30-Nov-04
Provinces: Ghazni

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#19-0002-ESAR	1-Mar-04	Saroj Basnyet	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$328,380	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$328,380
Project Description: ESAR will repair 26 km of road connecting Andar district center of Meray to the main Kabul-Kandahar highway.				
Expected Results (at end of project): Enhanced Livelihood – 146,000 farm families with increased access to markets				
Accomplishments this report: no report received yet.				
Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:				
Looking Ahead				
Comments This road provides an access to Joghori Malistan Road from the Kabul Kandahar road. ESAR had submitted the proposal for the construction of this road and USAID had approved \$328.380 for Job Order No. 019-00. They have signed the letter to Incur Costs with RAMP and discussions are being held on the pavement and geometric design of this road.				
Security				

Reconstruction of Roads in Kunduz
Partners in Revitalization and Building (PRB)
Life of Project: 16-Feb-04 to 16-Aug-04
Provinces: Kunduz

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#20-0002-PRB	18-Feb-04	Saroj Basnyet	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$857,291	\$17,287.20	\$103,016.20	\$15,000	\$739,274.80

Project Description: PRB will upgrade and rehabilitate 73.6 km of secondary roads in Kunduz, Imam Sahib district.

Expected Results (at end of project):

Enhanced Livelihood – 10,800 farm families with increased access to markets.

Accomplishments this quarter:

Training and updating of field staff in road construction/reconstruction of secondary roads by PRB engineer trained in UNOPS/AQIP training sessions.

Continuation of work in Ismail Qishlaq and Alif Berdi roads and start of work in Aaq Masjid roads.

Ismail Qishlaq Road

Excavation of drainages 644 m3

Resurfacing including leveling, crowning and compaction – 24,000m2

Alif Berdi Road

Excavation of drainages 369 m3

Resurfacing including leveling, crowning and compaction – 30,000 m2

Botta Kashan Road

The work in this road is not yet started.

Aaq Masjid Road

The work in this road started on May 15 and the following works are done:

Excavation of drainages 190 cu.m

Resurfacing including leveling, crowning and compaction 6000 sq.m

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

Two field visits have been completed within a period of less than one month. Discussions were also held at the RAMP office with the Director of PRB to ensure that the quality of the road construction improves by properly mixing clay with gravel ingredients and by rolling out a layer of gravel as soon as the compaction of the earth sub-base is complete – as exemplified in the Ismail Qishlaq Road.

Looking Ahead

Ismail Qishlaq Road

The work on this road is currently stopped and we are waiting for the outcome of negotiation between RAMP and relevant authorities.

Alif Berdi Road

Graveling and compaction of the road

Culverts

Botta Kashan Road

This road is also abandoned by the regional department of the ministry in Kunduz. No work has been performed in this road and, as in Ismail Qishlaq road, we are waiting for the outcome of the negotiation between RAMP and relevant authorities.

Aaq Masjid Road

Further exaction and resurfacing.

Comments

PRB had shown financial commitment for the construction of farm to market road projects by purchasing a 27 MT Danapik roller with a vibrator. They have constructed 12 kilometers of earth sub-base and compacted the gravel ingredients on the first 2 kilometers. They are compacting the remaining 10 kilometers with the gravel layers, upgrading the gradient of longitudinal drains to ensure that water collected from the gravel surface and other sources are transported to natural channels. They are setting out longitudinal and cross-sectional gradient of gravel base, and compacting the layers.

Security – nothing to report

Irrigation Rehabilitation in Khewa District
Social and Technical Association for Afghanistan Rehabilitation (STAAR)
Life of Project: 16-Feb-04 to 16-Jul-04
Province: Nangarhar

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#21-0002-STAAR	18-Feb-04	Ibrahim Sultani	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$336,448	\$151,882.93	\$151,882.93	\$33,500	\$151,065.07

Project Description: STAAR is constructing the main canal intake, rehabilitating a 100m retaining wall, constructing 19 culverts and a wasteway and sluicing gate along the Shegee main canal. Also wasteways are being constructed for the Koti-Tarn and Kachara canals. Intakes at the heads of the Koti-Taran and Kachara canals are being rebuilt..

Expected Impact (at end of project):

Enhanced Livelihood – 18,050 hectares receiving improved irrigation; 8,250 farm families with increased production; and 14,252 person-days of employment generated.

Accomplishments this quarter:

Increased water flow has held up completion of the Shegee Intake and the remaining work for the Koti Tarn and Kachara. STAAR requested a delay in May, 2004 until water flow decreases enough to allow work to resume. The revised projected date of completion is 31 July, 2004.

1. Shegee Main Canal Intake – 95% complete

2 retaining walls and 8 (of 19) culverts completed.

The timely completion of this intake has facilitated better management of flood flows and permitted controlled diversion of water for crops this season.

2. Koti Tarn – 10% complete

3. Kachara – 10% complete

Market Support Facilities:

STAAR is constructing 2 market produce collection centers in the local market areas of Taran and Kachara Villages of Khewa district.

Wage paid to Afghan workers to date: US\$ 20,685

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken

The primary challenge during this reporting period has been how to continue work during the flood season on the Kunar River.

Therefore preparatory work is being carried out to permit rapid resumption of work on the intakes, wasteways and other structures as flooding subsides.

Looking Ahead

The STAAR team is trying to speed up the remaining works that are not flood affected. This includes retaining walls, culverts and market centers. The objective is to finish all by the end of July.

Comments

In spite of the delays due to flooding, the work being done by STAAR is proceeding well.

Security – nothing to report



Road Rehabilitation in Malistan and Jaghori Districts
Ghazni Rural Support Program (GRSP)
Life of Project: 17-Feb-04 to 17-Jul-04
Provinces: Ghazni

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#22-0002-GRSP	17-Feb-04	Saroj Basnyet	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$748,422	\$263,615	\$263,615	\$32,000	\$452,807

Project Description: GRSP will rehabilitate two roads for a total of 60km in the Malistan and Jaghori Districts including retaining walls and concrete pipes for draining water crossing the road.

Expected Results (at end of project):

Enhanced Livelihood – 5,800 farm families with increased access to markets

Accomplishments this report:

GRSP has obtained approvals from the Ministry of Public Works and local authorities in Ghazni and begun work. Key personnel have been recruited, hired, and received construction training to meet USAID/RAMP standards for gravel roads. Other accomplishments include:

- Pre-cast concrete slabs poured - 115
- 3m culverts poured - 3
- 1m culverts poured - 1
- 60cm culverts poured - 3
- km of marking, and signing of road direction completed
- 15 km of the road right of way cleared of trees, bushes, shops, etc., been moved or removed
- 12 km of road base grading and compaction completed
- 10 km of road graveling completed
- Suitable land for the market produce collection center has been identified and the excavation is complete
- Survey of the road from Jaghuri to Malistan is ongoing

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

Getting access to road right of way and dealing with land ownership issues was difficult. Some landowners did not want to widen the road from 3 to 6 meters. It was also difficult to gain permission to clear trees and bushes along the roadside and persuade shopkeepers to move in some areas. GRSP worked with village elders and local authorities to point out potential benefits and resolve these issues.

Looking Ahead

Tasks scheduled during next reporting period

- 8 additional culverts
- 25km of road marked and cleared
- 13 km additional sub-base prepared
- 10 km of graveling
- 20 km of finished road

Comments

The quality of work on this road is impressive. They started their work during the third week of May and have completed the construction of 10 kilometers of road. They have followed our guidelines, returned the grader they were using, and have adopted labour-intensive construction methods to provide employment opportunities to people of the tributary area. They have generated 42,336 labor-days of work during May and June, and have paid USD 128,225 as salary to local people.

Security – nothing to report

Agricultural Production, Processing & Marketing Project

Central Asia Development Group (CADG)

Life of Project: February 17, 2004 - June 30, 2006

Provinces: Helmand and Kandahar

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>RAMP Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#23-0004-CADG	15-Feb-04	Atiqullah Mohibi	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$ 4,265,208.00	\$38,822.13	\$38,822.13	\$0.00	\$3,829,95.00

Project Description: CADG will establish demonstration farms, contract growing of selected crops, and provide agricultural technical assistance and expertise, processing and marketing, application of technologies to crop development, and implementation of drip irrigation plots.

Expected Results (by the end of project):

Capacity Building - At least 40Ha new vineyards and another 40Ha new orchards developed on land currently being planted with seasonal crops; 10 extension workers from the MAAH trained; Extension service provided to 6,000 farmers; One local fruit and nut processing facility developed and expanded.

Enhanced Livelihood - Grape/raisin yield increased by 35% due to the adoption of the trellis system; Fruit, cash crops and vegetable yield increased by 36% from adopting drip irrigation.

Accomplishments this Quarter

Completion of Market Collection Centers: Ten collection centers have been completed. The centers have a floor area of approximately 37m² and a sloping roof of 3.5m at the entrance to 2.5m at the rear. These Market Centres will be used to transfer locally grown produce to larger markets such as Lashkargah, Kandahar and Herat. These centers have been completed in the following locations:

Helmand	Kandahar
• Garamseer District, Havar Juft Village. Near village bazaar.	• Arghandab District, Tabin Village.
• Central District, Basharan Village. N-31 38 16.71, E-64 20 08.45	• Arghanbab District, Nagahan Village. Opposite Nagahan School
• Maja District, District Center	• Panjwai District, Yakh Chah Village.
• Nuhresiraj District, Girishk. Near village bazaar. N-31 48 50.66, E-64 34 06.32	• Zhari District, Sartak Village. Yakar Shenghazai
• Nawa District, District Center. Near village bazaar.	
• Nad-I-Ali District, Loy Bagh Village. Near village petrol station.	

Crop Demonstration and Extension Worker activity: Established 90 crop demonstrations of 13 crop types (mung bean, cotton, cucumber, grape, maize, okra, onion, peanut, Persian melon, pomegranate, sesame, tomato, watermelon) and 20 crop varieties. 21 CADG extension workers and 7 Government extension workers are providing technology transfer services in 13 districts (Land preparation; Seed type and sowing method; Crop condition; Fertilizer and pesticide application; Irrigation frequency for both drip and non-drip; Number of visitors to the plot and adoption rates; Weeding – frequency and costs of labor; Yields and selling prices of produce; and Security).

Installation of Drip Irrigation Systems: Has installed a total of 19 drip irrigation demonstrations and trained 45 farmers in their use across the 13 districts where CADG has RAMP demonstration plots. Drip systems are working effectively, and farmers are beginning to see the benefits of the newly installed system - hours devoted to weeding and fertilizer application have been reduced. An average of 10- 15 different farmers visit each plot daily – this often increases to 40 farmers on weekends. Local farmers are beginning to inquire about where they can purchase drip irrigation equipment.

Trellis Demonstration Farms: 21 trellis demonstrations have been established in Kandahar province and 2 demos

in Helmand province. Trellis systems will significantly increase the yields of grapes over traditional growing methods. The increased yields will have a positive affect on farmer's incomes.

Dried Apricot Training: Conducted a 4-day training session in Nowzad district in North Helmand for extension workers and over 30 local farmers. The training course covered all aspects of the harvesting and drying process of apricots including: Selection, picking, and grading of the fresh fruit; stacking of fruit trays in the 'sulfur room'; correct sulfuring and drying techniques; pitting of fruit (removal of seed); and grading of dried fruit.

Marketing: Identified international conferences that will have a positive learning effect for Afghan farmers and traders. CADG plans to attend these conferences with local entrepreneurs from Afghanistan. Conference topics included post-harvest handling and export possibilities to UAE markets. Value-add activities that are part of post-harvest handling will have a positive impact on both farmer and community incomes. The value-added activities that can be conducted in-country provide farmers with a market for their product and also provide valuable employment opportunities for local communities. Marketing afghan products domestically and internationally will help to address one of

the concerns of farmers in the country; a lack of markets for their production. Conferences include:

- Food summit in India about Post Harvest, on logistics, packing and handling of fresh fruit and vegetables. November 2004
- Gulf Food, Hotel and Equipment show in UAE. February 2005.

Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken

Other than security, no significant challenges to report this period.

Looking Ahead

Expansion of Crop Demonstrations Plots: Begin selecting suitable farmers across Kandahar and Helmand provinces who are willing to provide land for demonstration of Winter crops.

Radio: Expand its existing agricultural broadcasts from Helmand to Kandahar province. Arrangements have already been made with the station managers in both provinces for the logistical expansion, and broadcasts should begin in Kandahar early in the next quarter.

Farm Days: Promote visits to demonstration plots by holding 'Farm Days.' These will be used to highlight best practice, and increase adoption rates amongst farmers in the area.

International Marketing: Ship samples of dried apricots to international buyers in July and August.

Microfinance: Begin introducing this concept to farmers who have expressed an interest in starting processing plants. Determine the kind of funding they might need and work with RAMP rural financial advisors to see how best to progress.

Comments:

CADG needs to immediately focus more resources on the marketing and processing components of its job order. During the next quarter, CADG will be working with Roots of Peace to supply grapes for a pilot export program to India.

Security Issues:

Security remains volatile in Southern Afghanistan. CADG was specifically affected by an incident in the Panjway district of Kandahar. CADG was building a 28 km road in that district and on April 23, 2004, a large group of unknown men set eight pieces of heavy equipment ablaze. At the same time, they threatened the chowkidars against working for foreigners and also leveled threats at the district governor. Despite the setback, CADG still is operating in all districts under RAMP. CADG has sent a letter to RAMP requesting approval to hire one security professional for each of the core offices in Kandahar and Helmand province. While this was not in CADG's original budget, it is believed that the extra security for our staff and visitors will help the organization carry out our activities in a safe manner.

CADG extension workers have also raised concern about the signage for demonstration farms and activities in some districts in Helmand. Some districts in Helmand province are still extremely volatile from a security standpoint. Extension workers have expressed concern about posting signs with American flags, in some cases Afghan flags, and in extreme cases any signs at all. Being identified as an NGO worker has been a negative thing in the lead up to the elections

Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development Project

International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)

Life of Project: 17-Feb-04 to 30-Jun-06

Provinces: Kunduz, Helmand, Ghazni, Nangarhar, Parwan

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#24-0004-IFDC	15-Feb-04	Abdul Samed Nazari	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$2,970,300	\$230,469.55	\$230,469.55	\$33,000	\$2,706,830.45

Project Description: IFDC will train 2,000 agri-input dealers, improve market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.

Expected Results (by the end of project):

Capacity Building - 2,000 dealers trained; Agri-input dealers increased by 32.3%, from 1,436 to a total of 1,900; 7 sustainable dealer associations formed at provincial and regional levels and 1 at the national level.

Enhanced Livelihood - Farm production of both foodgrains and high-value crops increased by 25% to 35%.
Aggregate wheat production increased by 192,000Mt (valued at US\$19.2M)

Accomplishments this quarter:

- Regional offices made operational in Lashkargah (Helmand) and in Jalalabad (Nangarhar).
- 467 dealers were surveyed in the month in 37 districts of 8 provinces by the regional dealer development coordinators. This brings to 754 the number of dealers surveyed since this exercise was started in April.
- To date: 8 agri-input dealer training programs have been held in Ghazni, Parwan, Kabul, Jalalabad, Takhar, Kunduz, Baghlan and Balkh. 364 dealers and 99 others participated. Trainings covered the following topics:
 - Agriculture Inputs Marketing
 - Dealer network development, strategies and implications.
 - The role of regulations and laws covering the marketing of agri-inputs.
 - CPP safety training for dealers and producer groups.
 - Procurement (for large dealers, distributors and importers).
 - Business management.
 - Credit management (in conjunction with the Rural Finance Services job order and MISFA projects).
 - Demonstration of Best Crop Management Practices
- July work plans were finalized which include three dealer training programs covering four provinces – Kandahar, Helmand, Farah and Herat.
- An assessment of the seed market situation, outlook, and developmental constraints in Afghanistan was conducted.
- Jim Stanelle, seed specialist and short term consultant to the project, arrived in Kabul on June 2nd for a six week assignment to assist the project. He developed technical material on seed for the training programs which will be used in future. He also developed technical material for the crop technology leaflets/folders and charts that will be produced in the next few months. He worked on arranging visits of international seed suppliers to Afghanistan and their meetings with the large and potential seed traders. Stanelle also participated in the field day held by ICARDA in Charikar (Parwan).
- Information on international fertilizer prices (Urea, DAP, AN, NPK, MOP) from three different regions continues to be regularly maintained every week. A system is being developed to distribute these prices to the key players.
- The three regional coordinators continued making contacts with agri-input dealers in the provinces and districts of their regions. In June in all 467 dealers were surveyed in 37 districts of 8 provinces as.
- Training materials in Dari were prepared covering all technical, handling, and marketing aspects of seed, fertilizer, Crop Protection Products (CPP) and small farm instruments.
- A detailed database has been established containing contact information of 1400 interested agri-input dealers.
- Five agri-input dealer training programs were held in June in which 205 agri-input dealers and 70 persons from Extension, Cooperatives, Afghan Fertilizer Company, NGOs and International organizations participated. Dr. Hiquet Demiraj, a CPP Specialist, assisted in the preparation of training materials on crop protection products.

Location	Date(s)	Number Of Dealers	Number Of other Participants	Remarks
Ghazni	May 10 - 11	49	13	Head of the provincial administration, Mr. Niaz Mohammed Sahak, and director agriculture of the province, Mr. Sultan Hussein Abasyar participated in the inauguration.
Charikar	May 18 -19	57	8	Deputy Governor, Parwan Province, Mr. M Ghulam Siddiq and the director agriculture, Mr. Abdul Hafiz Hadid participated in the inaugural session
Kabul	May 26	53	8	Adviser to MAAH and former deputy Minister, Mr. Abdul Ghafoor, presided over the inaugural session and Mr. Abdul Qadir, director provincial agriculture, gave away certificates to the participants.
Jalalabad	June 1	48	12	Deputy Director Agriculture Nangarhar, Mr. Ismail Daulatzai, inaugurated the program and later gave away the certificates to participants.
Takhar	June 9	35	17	Provincial Governor, HE Mr. Mohammed Kabir Marzban inaugurated the training program. Important functionaries from the province were present on the occasion
Kunduz	June 13	57	12	Provincial Governor, HE Mr. Mohammad Omar inaugurated the training program. Important functionaries from the province were present on the occasion
Baghlan	June 17	31	15	Provincial Deputy Governor, HE Mr. Mohammad Aslum inaugurated the training program.
Mazar-e-Sharif	June 29	34	14	Provincial Deputy Governor, HE Mr. Haidiri inaugurated the training program.
TOTAL		364	99	

Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken – see security

Looking Ahead

- The assessments of the fertilizer, CPP and small farm implement markets are underway.
- Agri-input Dealer Training Workshops

Location	Dates
Kandahar	Monday July 12 th
Lashkargah (Helmand)	Thursday July 15 th
Herat (Herat and Farah)	Tuesday July 20 th

- Completion of the fertilizer, small farm implement and CPP market assessments (continued)
- Contact and survey of dealers in some of the remaining provinces of the three regions (continuous)
- Preparation of the material for use in crop production leaflets, and fertilizer, seed and CPP charts
- Planning of dealer training programs for August

Comments:

The practical impact of IFDC's training exercises needs to be evaluated before the fall planting season. RAMP will continue to enhance its monitoring activities until it is satisfied with IFDC's progress to date, and identify ways to better coordinate IFDC's extension activities with other job orders.
IFDC needs integrate a credit component for agri-input dealers in their program.

Security:

Due to security problems, It was difficult to obtain vehicles that would go to several of the provinces where dealer training programs were being held, particularly since there is no vehicle insurance (or for that matter life insurance) coverage in the country. In order to get the vehicles, IFDC had to pay a higher rate than usual.

**Agriculture Sector Training in Afghanistan
International Arid Lands Construction (IALC)
Life of Project: 1 April-04 to 30 June-05
Provinces: Nationwide**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#25-0004-IALC	14-Mar-04	Alem Alemi	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$400,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0.00	\$100,000

Project Description: IALC is providing training toward the restoration of arid and semi-arid lands in Afghanistan. Trainees will learn to apply appropriate technologies in agriculture and livestock development. The training activities include: short courses, scientist to scientist mentoring and long term training at the M. Sc. level.

Expected Results (by end of project):

Capacity building - 100 agriculturists, MAAH staff members, and agriculture university faculty members will be trained in agricultural technology and enterprise development skills; 24 scientists will receive specialized practical training through twinning of Afghanistan and Pakistan Agricultural Research Institutions; 5 technical manuals will be produced, suitable for individual reference or farmer training sessions.

Accomplishments this Quarter:

- During May and June, 4 courses "Enterprise Development and Management Skills", "Extension Methodology and Technology Transfer", "Animal Nutrition", and "Integrated Pest Management" were conducted at the University of Kabul in the Faculty of Agriculture. Attending the training programs were 83 Afghan participants from the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Alberuni University, Nangahar University, Mercy Corps, Balkh University, and the University of Kabul. Professors from the NWFP-AU in Peshawar, Pakistan served as the principal instructors, with assistance from selected Afghan cooperators.
- For long-term degree training plans, 5 faculty members have been selected from Nangarhar University in Jalalabad and 5 from the Faculty of Agriculture at Kabul University. This initial group of ten will enroll for the 2004 fall semester at the NWFP-AU to complete various prerequisites and begin M.Sc. degree study.
- For scientist-to-scientist specialized training that will support and operationalize "twinning" of selected research stations in Afghanistan with stations in the NWFP-AU system, 19 research scientists were identified from the Shasham Bagh and Darul Amaan research stations. Seven of the 19 scientists have started this specialized training program.
- An Assistant Training Coordinator, Mohammad Agha Jabarkhil, was hired with funding from RAMP and placed in the offices of Mercy Corps-Afghanistan to serve as the IALC/UIUC contact in Kabul. Arrangements for his office space and logistical support have been formalized via a Letter of Understanding with Mercy Corps.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

There were no notable problems encountered this reporting period.

Looking Ahead

During the next quarter IALC is enhancing communications with RAMP and other implementing partners to explore the possibility of expanding training programs to support the full range of 35 job orders currently being funded. IALC plans to identify short course topics and other training programs/approaches that will meet the human capital development needs of project activity nation-wide.

Dedicate efforts to formalize the relationship between the NWFP-AU and the Illinois Universities (UIUC and SIUC) by renewing the Memorandum of Understanding that was executed in 1994 at the conclusion of the TIPAN project. The MoU renewal/extension needs to be approved by the Faculty Senate (Syndicate).

Comments

IALC needs to make greater efforts in integrating their trained participants into more productive activities at their place of work. RAMP will enhance its monitoring activities on this project, and follow-up with former participants to evaluate the effectiveness of the training to determine means to improve the project and/or curriculum.

Security

Since this activity is mainly in NWFP Pakistan, there are no security issues.

Dried Vegetable Program

Developments Works Canada (DWC)

Life of Project: February 29, 2004 – February 28, 2005

Province: Parwan

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#26-0004-DWC	15-Feb-04	Atiqullah Mohibi	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$2,223,102	\$290,568	\$290,568	\$85,000	\$1,847,534

Project Description: DWC will develop a dried vegetable agribusiness that includes the construction of a 6,200 square foot dehydration factory to be used for cleaning, dicing, and drying machinery, a warehouse, a small test laboratory, a classroom for the research farm and training opportunities, and a 70 meter borehole to provide clean water for washing produce and irrigating the research farm.

Expected Results (by the end of project):

Capacity Building - Construction of one fully operational vegetable drying factory; formation of one local Afghan profit-driven corporation to manage factory and marketing of products.

Enhanced Livelihood – Employment created for 400, mostly female farmers, in the sun-dried tomatoes projects; Employment created for 120 persons at the factory.

Accomplishments this Quarter:

Factory, research and demonstration sites, collection centers

- The sites for the dried vegetable factory and the research farm in Charikar District (Parwan Province) have been determined and construction of the factory is to be started.
- For its demonstration plots, DWC is renting 1-2 jerib plots strategically located next to its collection centers. Four collection centers were built in vegetable producing areas (in Sadulah, Sadaquat, Sofian Laghmani, and Qalainaw Laghmani Districts) and will be used by producers for assembling their vegetables and other produce. The centers are 4 meters by 10 meters, and consist of a concrete slab and a metal roof.



Halo Trust clearing entire factory site / research farm following mine strike.

Community Mobilization

- DWC has identified 14 communities in Charikar District, Parwan Province to partner in the Dehydrates Program. All of these communities have existing cooperatives although it is unclear how active they are.
- DWC has held group meetings in each of these communities (with an average attendance of 30 farmers to introduce the dehydrates program and to gauge the interest of the communities in the program. All communities warmly received DWC and the farmers expressed keen interest in participating in the program.
- After holding meetings with community leaders, DWC Field Extension Officers have been visiting farms on a daily basis, gathering names of interested farmers, vegetables planted and estimated harvest dates.
- After the arrival of the seeds, DWC will sign contracts with farmers who will receive seeds and then sell their produce to us. This aspect of the project is going smoothly and there are no problems to report.

Sun-Dried Tomato Project

- DWC has made agreements with 14 communities (in Charikar District) who will be participating in the sun-dried

tomato project.

- Throughout May, the Sun-Dried Tomato Project was introduced to the communities through the meetings held with the male leaders. This approach was used in order to include the men in the process and therefore make them more willing to allow and encourage women to participate.
- During June, DWC held women's meetings in each community and compiled a list of 435 women interested in participating in the project. DWC's Community Officer, Afghan lady, has been training the women participants in proper sun-drying techniques. Trainings will be held in each village for all participating women at the end of which the women will receive a voucher for the sun-drying materials. Those who have completed the training will receive the materials in time for the peak of the tomato harvest.
- DWC recently recruited a female Afghan Community Officer who will train participants in sun-drying technique.
- DWC is purchasing materials (in bulk) for sample trays and is hiring welders to construct the trays.

Crate Production and Seed Purchase:

- DWC ordered specific vegetable seeds, including 400 kg of spinach seeds, 20 kg of turnips, and 600 kg of French beans, for distribution to its participating farmers.
- Crates were designed, pilot models created, and the production capability of community businesses and artisans to produce the crates determined.

Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken

- The first few community meetings were not always well attended due to communication issues revolving around the meeting time and place. However, these issues have been resolved and the later meetings have been well attended. In one instance, in Sadulah, the male village leader attended the meeting. When we asked for the names of those women who are interested in participating in the program, he told the women not to give us their names. After explaining again our purposes for collecting this information, he agreed that they should participate.
- The mine strike (see security section below) on the 10 acre factory site has this year denied DWC use of the land for research farming as originally planned. Instead, the team will rent one or two jeribs and establish research sites at each of the 15 Collection Sites in the program. Negotiations for these sites are ongoing, however DWC feels this new approach will more effectively and broadly disseminate agricultural knowledge than the earlier plan as local farmers – besides technical experts – will participate in extension activities.

Looking Ahead

- The research farm and demonstration plots will be established on the recently de-mined sites.
- Once the vegetable seeds arrive, DWC will sign contracts with interested farmers from the 14 communities and then distribute the seeds to them.
- DWC will continue training the farmers in appropriate harvesting and drying techniques.
- In July, training programs will be held in each village for all participating women. Once the women finish the training, they will receive vouchers for the sun-drying materials.
- The manufactured crates and tomato drying trays will be made available to participating farmers.
- Construction of the dried vegetable factory will be initiated and the factory equipment procured.
- DWC is planning to build 26 more collection centers in strategic vegetable-procuring locations.
- Additional market opportunities, domestic and international, for dried vegetables will be explored

Comments:

DWC is doing a very good job integrating their work with developing market centers and in employing large numbers of women in their tomato drying activities. DWC is also taking a lead on quality control measures. They need to make sure their phytosanitary laboratory equipment is in place as soon as possible, to be ready for harvest and export at the end of the summer.

Security:

On May 18, 2004, an anti-tank mine exploded as Halo Trust was doing a preliminary sweep of the factory site. No one was injured but Halo Trust's equipment was damaged in the explosion. Halo Trust subsequently took several days to further research the mine situation at the factory site. DWC and Halo Trust agreed that de-mining would resume on June 1st with an approximate completion date of June 10, 2004. Halo Trust has made the de-mining of the factory site a priority and has their employees working double shifts to meet the above deadline. DWC are grateful for the professionalism and assistance of Halo Trust.

Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project and Agribusiness Program
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
Life of Project: 15-Mar-04 to 28-Feb-05
Provinces: Herat

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-CRS	17-Feb-04	Abdul Quduus	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$3,499,767	\$0	\$0	\$120,000	\$3,379,797

Project Description: CRS rehabilitate irrigation systems and create market opportunities for three high value crops and provide technical assistance to producers and other supply chain entities.

Expected results (by end of project):

Enhanced Livelihood -100 km of primary canal structures rehabilitated; 16,000ha existing land irrigated optimally, resulting in annual gross income of US\$7.8M (annual wheat output value); 4,000ha extra arable land irrigated optimally, resulting in annual gross income of US\$1.9M (annual wheat output value); 7,000 farm families achieve increased output and incomes.

Accomplishments this quarter:

This Job Order consists of two separate yet integrated components: infrastructure (rehabilitating irrigation systems) and agriculture (creating marketing opportunities)

Rehabilitating Irrigation Systems

- Contracted and mobilized subcontractor for survey and design work, and established implementation schedule for carrying out survey and design activities.
- Initiated baseline surveys and gathered daily water quality samples and discharge measurements at critical points along the Injil and Guzara canals.
- Drafted GPS-based map of the Injil Canal including critical intervention points.
- Established solid working relationship with Herat Irrigation and Water Resources Department at administrative and field levels, including plan for capacity building.
- In late April, began collecting baseline information on the Injil and Guzara canals, which includes data on water quality, water discharge, and water use patterns. Using GPS equipment, Mapped the Injil canal identifying critical intervention points along the canal. In June, AFPRO conducted a four-day quick survey of Guzara Canal.
- CRS and WVI staff met with Chemonics/RAMP on May 23 to discuss details of a proposed fixed-price-contract based on a draft version. As CRS and WVI do not typically operate under fixed-price-contracts, both organization consulted their headquarters in USA to determine our ability to commit to the general provisions of the contract.
- In late-May, as laid out in the project proposal, CRS carried out a competitive bid process to select a company to conduct surveys, designs, and engineering budgets for the IRP. CRS selected AFPRO, an Indian NGO, based on cost, expertise, and positive experience between CRS and AFPRO in India.

Creating Marketing Opportunities

- Recruited 2 high quality national staff from agriculture training and marketing support. 4-5 additional staff to be recruited.
- 10 farmers identified to establish greenhouses for off-season production. One experimental plot planned in Urdu Khan Research Station
- General land-use survey completed in Injil District. Similar survey is on-going in Guzara District. It is expected to be over by end of July.
- CRS met with FINCA and MISFA in June to formulate ideas for loan portfolio for investors and/or farmers associated with Technical Working Groups (TWG).
- 10 saffron demonstration plots and 1 experimental plot have been initiated. First plowing will be completed in the experimental plot in the first week of July.
- Conducted market assessments and economic analyses on cumin and submitted reports in June.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

- CRS was delayed in recruiting international staff. The Team Leader for the Western Consortium arrived in-

country in early July. The Agribusiness Specialist arrived in late June. The Senior Site Engineer is due to arrive on July 25.

- Mobilization of AFPRO took two weeks longer than anticipated due to logistical constraints and delays in obtaining visas in India. The advantage of the delay in mobilizing AFPRO is that they have arrived extremely well prepared in terms of plans and equipment.
- There was a delay in recruiting international staff due to delays in (a) RAMP issuing the subcontract, and (b) CRS HQ agreeing to work under the conditions of a fixed-price-contract. As of early July, all international staff under the ASP are in Herat.

Looking Ahead

Rehabilitating Irrigation Systems

- **Survey and Design:** Early in the next quarter, an Indian engineering company (AFPRO) will survey both canals and develop designs and engineering budgets. In August, will present the designs and budget for preliminary review by RAMP
- **Data collection:** From July through September, a PRA will be conducted to take place simultaneous to the survey and design, including consultations with water-users and CBOs regarding water use, current problems, traditional water management practices, and water management strategies.

Creating Marketing Opportunities

- Establish Technical Working Groups for tomato, saffron, and cumin growers by mid-August.
- Discussion will be initiated with the Cooperative members to develop it into a agro-input and market service center for the village if not for a cluster of villages.
- Work with UC Davis to put together training material on tomato production and processing.
- Start greenhouse construction in Urdu Khan research station.
- Identify at least one Cold Storage investor / landowner who is interested in participating in the project.

Comments

CRS needs to focus more on effective market development activities and quality control measures in the upcoming quarter. CRS and DWC are exploring ways to further integrate their job orders with regards to processing activities.

Security

Grain Postharvest Training, Storage and Milling in Afghanistan

The Grain Industry Alliance

Life of Project: 15-Mar-04 to 30-Jun-06

Provinces: Kunduz, Helmand, Parwan, Nangarhar, Ghazni

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#28-0002-GIA	15-Mar-04	M. Alem Alemi	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$2,799,057	\$ 432,447.34	\$ 432,447.34	\$125,000	\$2,241,609.66

Project Description: : GIA will provide training opportunities and demonstration sites for cleaning, storage and handling of grain, develop 25 community level storage sites, 25 full scale farm demonstration units and 25 small farm demonstration units.

Expected Results (at end of Project):

Enhanced Livelihood – Storage loss reduced from 5% to 15%; Approximately 20Mt/per unit saved, valued at wheat equivalent of US\$105,600

Accomplishments this quarter:

Holding Bins: 50 holding bins for storage of seeds/grains/legumes constructed by local fabricator and installed. 14 storage units have been placed in Helmand, 6 in Nangarhar, and 5 in Parwan, 5 in Ghazni and 20 in Kunduz provinces. MAAH has been involved in recommending appropriate bin sites.

Ownership of the storage bins: Ag.cooperatives and seed/grain producers association will be the owners. Contracts of ownership were signed with them to maintain and facilitate turn for the use of the bins by the members.

Warehouse construction: GIA has collected bids on six district level warehouses in Kunduz and 2 in Parwan. GIA released a bidding contract for the contractors and distributed them to everyone on June 11. Government authorities in Kunduz, Helmand, Nangarhar and Parwan have been involved in the process and are informed of GIA activities.



NGO Synergy: Participation in ICARDA field demonstrations in Nangrahar and Kunduz Provinces, Central Asian Development Group site Selection in Helmand Province, and ACTED active participation in Parwan Province.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Survey sheets and documentation for new sites for holding bins are being kept as well as GPS data. Once a community receives holding bins, GIA maintains contact for monitoring or progress and usage. Site selection and verification for the holding bin installation continues along with the development of district warehouses.

GIA is in the process of collecting GPS coordinates for each of the installed holding bins. To date, 17 coordinate sets have been collected and are listed below:

Holding Bin Location			Distance From center of province	Ownership	GPS location		
Province	District	Village		Association Name	Altitude	Latitude	longitude
Kunduz	Chahar Dara	Nahir soufi	17 Km	Lal Jan	337m	N 36 43 04"53	E 68'47'45"06
Nangarhar	Surkh road	Zulm Abad	18 Km	Akhtar M.	561m	N 34 26 56.95	E 70 22 10.52
Helmand	Lashkargah	Dahna 29 loui manda	25 Km	Eng.Mahmod	812.2	N 31.72876,	E 064.36897

Helmand	Lashkar guh	Bushran clay	10 Km	Manullah Akhondzada	808M	N 31.63 235	E 064.32689
Helmand	Nad Ali	Zarghon Caly	12 km	Haji khan Mohmad	803.6	N 31.64 408,	E 064.28176
Helmand	Nad Ali	Naqil Abad	15 km	Haji Shir M.	813.9	N 31.69 305	E 064 26 032
Helmand	Nawae	Khalige	30 km	Ali shah khan	749.6	N 31.37 767	E 064 29 080
Nangarhar	Behsoud	Janan khil	5 Km	M.Anwar	552m	N 34.27.08.65	E 70.2753.95
Nangarhar	Khogiani	Hakim Abad	30 Km	Hazrat Khan	1253	N 34 14 13.51	E 70 10 58.02
Nangarhar	Khiwa	Atawar	30 Km	Fazul rahim	581m	N 34 35 19.40	E 70 34 49.97
Nangarhar	Kamah	Mustali	35 Km	Ahmad shah	493m	N 34 24 17.37	E 70 35 08.33
Nangarhar	Bati Kot	Qatar Kaly	34 Km	Rahmatullah	474m	N 34 16 28.51	E. 70 44 10.48
Parwan	Bagram	Qali Khwaja	18 Km	Ab Ahad	1459	N 34 55 46.64	E 69 13 06 29
Parwan	Jabal Saraj	Taglar & zarbiya	15 km	Gul Agha	1535	N 35 05 13.97	E 69 13 23 90
Parwan	Chrikar city	Sadat Co-op	0	S. Amir	1505	N 34 59 52.59	E 69 10 01.28
Parwan	Center or charikar	Tutom Dara	8 Km	Allah bubani	1523	N 35 03 50.97	E 69 12 33.35
Kapisa	Kohstan	First part	30 km	Gh.Darwish	1558	N 35 07 02.24	E 69 17 38.32

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

The issue of ownership of the district facilities was holding up progress of the bidding and construction of the district warehouses. Meetings of 31 May and 2 June yielded the following results: Associations are preferred over cooperatives and government ownership by both producers and RAMP. The difficulty for Grain Industry Alliance is no specifications have been identified as acceptable associations. Although GIA and partner KRA are willing to work on identifying associations with workable arrangements, we could not assure RAMP of the strength of the association. We could only incorporate terms that we believed assure their success.

Therefore, ownership and definition of appropriate associations is delaying the progress of the district level construction. In the event there is a problem with the ownership in the hands of an association, this would have to be dealt with deal at a later date.

Looking Ahead

- GIA will start construction of 6 district storage units in the Kunduz Province with at least 500 Mt of capacity in each of the identified districts.
- Develop Grain Standards for Afghanistan producers and processors
- Purchase and installing of 10 cold storages

Comments

Early in the next quarter, GIA needs to follow-up on providing training the most efficient and effective management of the holding bins.

Security: GIA reported no security concerns this quarter.

Grape Revitalization for Afghanistan Productivity and Empowerment

Roots of Peace (RoP)

Life of Project: March 14, 2004 to March 30, 2006

Provinces: Parwan, Nangarhar, Ghazni, Helmand and Kandahar

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#29-0004-RoP	14-Mar-04	Abdul Samad Nazari	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$3,959,123	\$ 619,449	\$ 619,449	\$130,000	3,209,674

Project Description: RoP will provide extension services for Afghan farmers, training for MAAH extension agents, develop 10 model farms for best practices, create market/collection centers, improve vine propagation; establish 3 Farmer Owned Businesses (FOBs); promote commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets.

Expected Results (by end of project)

Capacity Building - Establishment of foundation nursery and integrated grape/raisin marketing system; 20 horticulture extension agents trained

in vine propagation and maintenance; Establishment of 9 association managed processing/packaging centers,

Enhanced Livelihood - 22,000ha vineyards upgraded through enhanced agricultural technology; 13,000 farm families adopt agricultural technologies leading to increased income; Grape/raisin export increased by 35%.

Accomplishments this Quarter

Baseline Data Collection: From April until June, RoP completed baseline surveys in 2 districts in Parwan Province (Bagram, Charekar) and 6 in districts Kabul Province (Farza, Guldara, Istalef, Kalakan, Mir Bacha Koot, Qara Baugh). A total of 1,377 farmers were interviewed with regards to grape production (number of vines, hectares cultivated, yield per vine), income generated, and problems encountered. Farmers cited poor irrigation, lack of marketing opportunities, and, to a lesser extent, crop diseases to be the most significant. The data collected this quarter will be exceptionally valuable in assessing the progress of RoP's job order.

Collection Centers: 15 collection centers (7 in Parwan, 7 in Kandahar, 1 in Ghazni), which are assembly points located in grape-producing villages, were built throughout the regions where grapes are produced. A total of 21 sites for more collections centers have been selected in Parwan, Kandahar, Ghazni, Kabul, and Zabul, and negotiations for construction are underway with village elders.

Establishment of Darul Aman Nursery:

- RoP representatives met with Mr Quduz, Director of the MAAH Darulaman Research Station, about land and labor requirements for vine cuttings imported from the U.S. for the foundation nursery. He provided 300 sq-m and labor for site preparation. A contract was prepared and submitted to MAAH Research Director specifying the responsibilities of RoP and MAAH regarding the foundation nursery
- Site preparation including plowing and furrowing, weeding, and irrigation of the foundation nursery were completed.
- Received a shipment of 4,205 grape cuttings (including 22 varieties) from UC Davis on Sunday, May 30. The cuttings were planted and irrigated at MAAH's Darulaman research farm on May 31. To protect the cuttings, a canopy of reeds was constructed to provide shade.

Marketing Activities: RoP representatives conducted market studies in UAE and India to assess the feasibility of initiating a grape export program. RoP has made steps to introduce buyers to grower associations in Afghanistan to negotiate terms of sale. RoP has laid down the groundwork for implementing a pilot export program to India for the 2004 grape season.

Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken

- Cash flow has greatly eased from earlier report. This has allowed much progress to be made in obtaining/building infrastructure for the project.
- It has become difficult for NGOs (RoP included) to import vehicles for the project because the Ministry of Planning has cars from being released at custom houses. Currently, 6 vehicles invoiced to the project are

being held up by this Ministry, and will not allow them to be released. This is adding to RoP's cost of doing business, has caused security problems, and has delayed implementation of certain aspects of the project.

- Lingering impact of drought and disease has impaired fruit production in almost 40% of vineyards in Dand district and 10% in Zeray district of Zabul province. Extension staff of RoP have assisted the farmers in combating their disease problems.

Looking Ahead

- Completion of venue arrangements for training workshops
- Completion of hiring of MAAH extension agents
- Support to trainers for workshops
- Designation of extension agents to specific districts
- Completion of cluster count in Zeray district of Kandahar and in Zabul province
- Completion of 3collection points in Kandahar and Zabul

Comments:

A workplan for test marketing Afghan table grapes in India was completed by RoP this quarter. The workplan was developed after extensive discussions with Afghan grape producers, traders, and exporters, investigating the costs of processing, packaging, and refrigerated storage and transport to India, and examining the reaction from grape buyers in India. The workplan includes the initiating a pilot export program of shipping at least 80 mt of fresh grapes to a Bombay produce buyer in August.

Security:

Security conditions have deteriorated in Kandahar province.

Locust Control Program, Northern Afghanistan

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Period of Performance: March 11, 2004 – Dec. 31, 2004

Project Sites: Balkh, Samangan, Baghlan, Kunduz and Takhar

Job Order No.	Date of Award	Project Manager	USAID CTO	USAID CO
JO#30-0004-FAO	11-Mar-04	Abdul Samad Nazari	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
Ceiling Price	Quarter Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Accruals to Date	Balance
\$606,651	\$461,465	\$461,465.	\$80,000	\$80,000.

Project Description: FAO will implement an emergency locust control program in northern Afghanistan and supply essential laboratory equipment to the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry

Expected Results (by end of project):

Capacity Building - 8 PPQD technical staff, over 1000 operators, and over 100 organizers/supervisors trained to carry out locust control operations.

Enhanced Livelihood - A total of over 100,000 hectares of agricultural land (with a potential production of 400,000 metric tons of wheat) protected from locust damage to crops. Food security improved for more than 270,000 farm families

Accomplishments this Quarter

Besides the eight PPQD staff trained, FAO staff trained the following operators, organizers and supervisors and established monitoring units in the following provinces and districts.

Province (Districts)	Operators Trained	Organizers/Supervisors Trained	Monitoring Units Established
Baghlan (Baghlan, Baghlani, Jadid, Puli Khumri)	290	31	29
Kunduz (Ali Abad, Chara Dara, Khan Abad, Kunduz)	160	17	16
Takhar (Taloqan, Ishkamish, Farkhar, Rostaag)	50	6	5
Samangan (Aybak, Ferouz Nakshir, Hazrati Sultan, Khuram Wa Sarbagh, Ruyi Du Ab)	410	43	41
Total	910	97	91

The major locust control efforts were concentrated in Samangan province (over 45,000 hectares), Baghlan province (over 30,000 hectares), and Kunduz (over 18,000 hectares), and Takhar and Balkh provinces (over 7,000 hectares).

The locust control effort continues in three provinces:

- **Baghlan Province:** Most areas in the southern part of the province are now cleared. Efforts are now being concentrated in those northern areas which have been reinvaded.
- **Kunduz Province:** Only Char Dara district remains infested
- **Samangan:** intense operations have continued in Omali and in the areas reinvaded by adults. A team has been transferred to Panj Qarya to control hopper bands.

It was reported that 85-90% of the locust population has been controlled in the target provinces given in the table above. The locust control program was considered successful despite a very warm month of March and early locust hatch, a corresponding late start for the program, a shortage of diflufenzuron, re-invasion of previously sprayed and cleared (of locust) areas, poor coordination and cooperation of local community people, especially in Kunduz and Balkh provinces.

Estimating Target Beneficiaries: An assessment of the rural population (who are assumed to be farmers) in the target provinces indicate that the total number of beneficiaries is estimated at 271,000.

Renovation of PPQD Laboratory: Due to the locust emergency, FAO's staff have been mainly occupied with implementing locust control activities during this reporting period, as have some of the relevant PPQD staff. Despite this, project staff members were able to initiate a preliminary list of potential suppliers and a review of technical specifications for the equipment required. The procurement of necessary equipment for the PPQD will proceed the next quarter.

Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken

- Due to the locust emergency, the project and MAAH staff members have been fully occupied with control efforts. More resources have now been allocated to the renovation of PPQD laboratory, and significant progress toward capacity building is expected next quarter.
- Refer to Security Issues.

Looking Ahead

- Re-infested areas will be brought under control during the early stages of the next quarter.
- Oviposition sites have been identified and surveys will be conducted. The report on the surveys to estimate the geographic area where locust eggs are present will be completed by August 31st.
- Renovation of PPQD Laboratory.
 - Purchase of required equipment for PPQD laboratory, MAAH, Kabul.
 - Install equipment and train laboratory staff in its use.
- On-going training of PPQD technical staff in locust control campaigns.

Comments:

Deputy- Minister Mr. Jawad from MAAH and the Governor of Kunduz, Engineer Omar, visited the locust campaign in Kunduz and Baghlan provinces. They were satisfied with the progress of the campaign to date.

The locust campaign began about 2 weeks late this year because FAO and GOAL were expecting earlier delivery of the pesticides by the Norwegian project. Next year, the campaign should begin no later than March 15, particularly in the lower elevations. Training on the safe application of agro-chemicals should be repeated at the start of each annual locust campaign.

Security Issues:

- On 15th May, an organizer working at Qasab village in the Mir Sheikh area of Chara Dara district (Kunduz province) was attacked and seriously injured with a sickle. The provincial coordinator and Mr Ahmedy (FAO-NPP) were also threatened by a gang of about 10 men with stones. In spite of a strong response from the local authorities, the assailant has not been apprehended. The attack resulted in widespread suspension of work by control teams.
- A second attack on an operator occurred elsewhere in Chara Dara on May 17. In this case it was caused by a dispute as to whose field should be sprayed first.
- These incidents are largely due to panic and frustration caused by the presence of adult locusts in their crops and the delays in implementing effective control due to shortage of pesticide and the late start of the project. While full operation can not resume until the safety of workers is guaranteed, any delay will only exacerbate the situation. The district governor will call together the village elders and clarify their responsibilities. Work will resume everywhere except in Qassab village. Work will resume there only after the assailant is apprehended.

Locust Control Program Northern Afghanistan GOAL

Life of Project: 11-Mar-04 to 31-Dec-04

Provinces: Balkh, Jawzjan, Badakshan

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#31-004-GOAL	11-Mar-04	A. Samad Nazari	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$627,072	\$ 217,939	\$ 217,939	\$100,000	\$309,133

Project description: GOAL will implement a program to mitigate the impact of Moroccan locusts on rural livelihoods in Northern Afghanistan. Its key activities will include direct assistance to the chemical control of locusts with the provision of technical support, plastic sheeting, nets, barrels for water, ploughs and tents; mobilization of the rural population to areas of locust infestation, through the provision of transportation; full logistical support to the FAO and Ministry of Agriculture for chemical control intervention; monitoring of locust-infested sites and program advances through constant feedback, crop damage assessments, and locust egg-bed surveys; and final evaluation and provision of data for the locust database, the FAO, and AIMS.

Projected Impact:

- Control of about 90% of the potential locust damage to agricultural crops in four target provinces in Northern Afghanistan.
- Determine the remaining locust problem as assessed through a locust egg-bed survey completed at the end of the locust control period.

Enhanced Livelihood

- A crop damage less than the 2002 level of 9%
- About 120,000Ha agricultural land protected from locust infestation
- Food security improved for more than 150,000 farm families.

Accomplishments this Quarter:

Training (in March-April):

- GOAL and FAO trained all the operators, organizers, and supervisors involved in the locust control campaign in the four provinces. The training focused on providing effective locust control measures through the use of ULVAs (ultra low volume applicators) and back sprayers, working with the local communities in making the program as effective as possible, and assessing effects of the chemical applications.
- HALO Trust presented a mine training session to the operators, organizers, and supervisors.
- GOAL trained the warehouse storekeepers in storing and recordkeeping of the chemicals in the warehouse.

Pesticide Use and Locust Control

Starting in April, three types of pesticides were used during the locust control campaign: Deltametrin for the treatment of newly hatched locusts. Nurelle D for the treatment during the hopping and adult stages, and Diflubenzuron for the hopping stage. Procurement of the chemicals necessary for the program was the responsibility of FAO working in close collaboration with the MAAH. .

Pesticide Supply and Transport:

GOAL rented 85 vehicles, mostly small vans, in the four provinces to transport the organizers and sprayers and used a rental truck (5 tons) to move chemical and support material to the warehouse and outwards to the affected districts. On May 10th and 12th, FAO received 2 shipments of 12,000 liters each of Deltametrin insecticide spray by 2 Belgian Air Force Hercules airplanes. GOAL organized and supervised all of the logistics and transport to unload the planes and send the pesticide to warehouses in Mazar, Aybak, Kunduz and Pul-I-Kumri.

Warehousing:

GOAL, with assistance from FAO, constructed 4 warehouses (Samangan Kunduz, Baghlan, Balkh) for storing insecticide and spraying equipment. The warehouses are centered in the areas most vulnerable to locust infestation. GOAL monitors warehouses on a regular basis to assure that the storage of the stock was in accordance with GOAL standards, to verify the accuracy of the quantity of the material and to make sure that all the forms were completed accurately and correctly.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

There is a great deal of concern about security in this region.

Looking ahead:

The remaining pockets of locusts will be controlled after which a locust egg-bed survey will be conducted to determine the extent of control measures needed next year.

Comments: The early hatch of the locusts due to unseasonably warm temperatures in March coupled with a late start to the project meant that, in the lower elevations of some districts of some provinces, locusts had time to move away from the egg beds and were more difficult to control. Consequently, more chemical was needed to cover the targeted areas for controlling the locusts.

Security: See FAO Locust report number 30 for details on security incidents in the region around locust control.

Green Kabul Program
United Nations Office for Project Services
Life of Project: 10-Mar-04 to 30-Nov-04
Provinces: Kandahar and Helmand

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#32-004-UNOPS	09-Mar-04	M. Alem Alemi	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$999,380	\$ 586,365	\$ 586,365	\$100,000	\$313,015

Project description: UNOPS will procure and distribute approximately 1 million trees throughout Kabul. Its key activities will include: planting fruit and forestry trees in various public locations throughout Kabul, including schools, government buildings, parks, roadsides, and the Kabul Green Belt; organizing Kabul Green Week activities, including public events, children's activities, receptions, entertainment, and education; and coordinating an ongoing public information campaign to raise public awareness of environmental issues in Afghanistan.

Expected Results (by end of project):

Capacity Building - 2.5 million Kabul residents receive Environmental Education through media.

Enhanced Livelihood – activities will generate 30,000 labor hours of employment in and around Kabul.

Accomplishments this report:

Planting Saplings: 15,000 conifer saplings brought directly from the US were transplanted in 15 Jeribs of land in rows approximately 70 by 25 cms between rows and plants. By the time of reporting, 65% of the saplings were in good condition, 30% were in fair condition, and 5% were in poor condition.

World Environment Day: To commemorate the annual celebration of World Environment Day, ACC partnered with United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), Members of the Advisory Group on the Environment, and local NGOs to inaugurate a campaign on solid waste management and environmental education. A total of 80 Kabul schools and 340,000 students participated in a clean-up of the poorest areas of the city. Kabul Municipality contributed by picking up the collected garbage.

Minister Qanooni kicked off the event in a ceremony at Khaikhona School and announced on public television the distribution of 20,000 Environmental Education Booklets in the classrooms of 80 schools, provided with generous support from the U.S. Government through USAID.

Murals: Mural paintings by local artists including special young artists (orphans, disabled and street children) have transformed public buildings across the city with positive environmental messages. Nine murals have been completed by 1) ASCHIANA School, 2) Social Volunteers Foundation School (SVF), 3) Hearing Impaired Foundation (HIFA) and 4) Maimanagee Cultural Institute. The second round will begin next week with four additional murals.

These murals can be viewed in the following locations: Char-rahi-zanbag; Bagh-e-Zanana; Pule-Baghe-Omumi; Kote-Sangi (Paghman Road); Shar-e-Naw (opposite UNICA); Microrayan B-58; Kabul University, Women's Dormitory; Ministry of Education, TV Department; Ministry of Communication, Fourshgagh.

Environmental Education Curriculum: A new Environmental Education curriculum, developed by ACC and Science professionals and professors, was approved in new form by the Ministry of Education. Following the initial distribution of 5,000 copies in pilot schools throughout Kabul, Initial feedback from teachers and students was overwhelmingly positive, and in most cases, this was the first curriculum of its kind to be taught in schools.

Building on educational initiatives stemming from Kabul Green Week **USDA** held a workshop in Kabul in June 2004 with two conservation experts to develop **Conservation Education Material** appropriate for Afghanistan together with Afghan colleagues. The training materials will then be introduced across the country to laborers, Ministry staff, schools, institutions and community groups.

Youth Conservation Corps: Afghanistan's first chapters of **Youth Conservation Corps** (YCC), a youth initiative encouraging interest and participation in the environment, have expanded significantly in recent months, with the addition of. Additional results will produce increased awareness of acute environmental problems facing the nation,

jointly with opportunities to actively locate avenues for involvement in the remediation of these problems. A national curriculum, presented to and approved by the Ministry of Education will be introduced to schools as a basis for more formal inclusion of Environmental Science later this school year.

Training Workshops: In July 2004, USDA held a joint Soil and Water Conservation Workshop with Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Forestry; Ministry of Irrigation, Water Resources and Environment, Department of Environment; and Afghan Conservation Corps to train Ministry staff and Project Supervisors. Specific technical skills were introduced in relevant topics such as Irrigation Management, Check Dams, Surveying, Nursery Management and Species Identification. This intensive five-day workshop is part of a larger strategy to develop capacity among Ministry staff and will be specifically useful in the guaranteeing proper management of trees procured over Kabul Green Week. All participants received a training manual to keep, and from which to base follow-up trainings in the regions. A Training of Teachers Workshop was held in Kabul for leading Science Teachers on Environmental Instruction in the classroom. Over thirty educators participated in the training with newly developed Teacher's Manuals (translated in to Dari) specific to Afghanistan.

Women's Conservation Corps (WCC): The Women's Conservation Corps (WCC) pilot project responds to the urgent need to target employment programs at women following years of war. As a part of Kabul Green Week, women laborers participated in tree distribution and planting in public locations, and received fruit saplings to cultivate at home. They continue to be involved in this women's home nursery project, aiming to provide longer-term income generation opportunity, with added nutritional benefit and basic skills development in horticulture. Women are reporting good results with their new seedlings, and are preparing to begin skills training in Fall 2004.

Public Information Campaign: An ongoing public information campaign continues to broadcast to Kabul residents news coverage, Round-table discussions, Public Service Announcements, educational segments and children's shows. Follow-up focus groups confirmed the effectiveness of this campaign. The Ministry of Information and Culture pledge their ongoing cooperation in support of these ongoing initiatives.

Kabul Green Belt: This initiative also provided employment for hundreds of unskilled laborers in the 16 sites of the Kabul Green Belt, providing income and skills training for the country's most vulnerable populations will provide an urgent economic boost to families throughout the country, in addition to building skills and raising awareness. Collectively, activities linked to Kabul Green Week should generate 30,000 labor days.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

None to report.

Looking ahead:

Monitoring will continue with teams from Ministry of Irrigation and Ministry of Agriculture its monitoring of public locations and nurseries. This will continue to include donor site visits to project locations

Regular follow-up meetings of the Kabul Green Week Working Group partners, review monitoring, and plan follow-up activities and priorities.

Comments:

UNOPS project is progressing according to schedule.

Security:

No security issues to report.

Repair of the Fil Koh Chute
Gulson Cucurova
Life of Project: 07-Apr-04 to 08-May-04
Provinces: Kandahar

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#33-0002-Gulsan	29-Apr-04	Ibrahim Sultani	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$45,000	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$0	\$0

Project Description: GULSAN-Cucurova assessed the damage and repaired the hole, finished the floor, constructed an energy dissipation structure, repaired the wingwalls and installed riprap.

Expected results: maintaining reliable irrigation supply for 35,000 hectares of land

Accomplishments this quarter: Project Successfully Completed

The Fil Koh chute is part of an irrigation/hydroelectric project that was implemented by USAID long before the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. As a result of military action, the chute was damaged, threatening approximately 35,000 hectares with disruption of irrigation.

Governor Pashtoon of Kandahar Province confirmed that the repair of the Fil Koh chute was an immediate priority for reconstruction. USAID repair efforts were coordinated with representatives of the Japanese government, who were in the process of developing their master plan for rehabilitating the Kandahar agriculture sector.



The damaged chute before repairs

The repair effort was more complicated than anticipated, due to undermining of the structure by attempts to run water through the chute while damaged. Repair work proceeded quickly, starting April 7, 2004 and was completed in time for farmers to start planting for the 2004 crop cycle.



The repaired chute and rebuilt wing-walls

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken: Looking Ahead

Comments

This project was the result of good planning and collaboration. Because the GULSAN-Cucurova group was already in the region working on other contracts, they were able to dedicate resources to this project at very low overhead cost.

Security

Agricultural Produce Market Centers
Relief International (RI)
Period of Performance: 15-Apr-04 to 30-Apr-05
Province: Nangarhar

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#34-0002-RI	23-June-2004	James Huddleston	Albert Merkel	Andrew Holland
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,337,707	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,337,707.

Project Description: RI will construct and equip 9 agricultural produce market centers. Each center will include 9 secure storage units, and 24 market stalls. RI will also build 20 market collection centers and the wholesale fruit and vegetable market in Jalalabad.

Expected Results (at end of project):

Enhanced Livelihood – 53,500 farm families with increased access to market

Accomplishments this report: date of award was 23 June, no monthly reports yet received.

Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken:

Looking Ahead

Comments

Relief International has completed 19 market collection centers. The twentieth market collection center has been put on hold until the best location is selected by the RAMP agriculture team. All 19 of the market collection centers are well constructed and sited in strategic locations along farm to market roads in this major agricultural production province. The 9 agricultural market centers and the Jalalabad Fruit and Produce Wholesale Market has not yet begun due to design changes and pending signing of the letter of agreement.

Security

RAMP Project Summaries by Target Regions

The RAMP program is currently comprised of 39 different projects that are vertically integrated to address these subsectors of the agricultural economy of Afghanistan:

Processing and Market Development
Water and Inputs (seed, fertilizer)
Livestock Health and Management Services
On-farm Demonstrations, Technology Transfer and Best Practices
Roads and Transport
Rural Financial Services and Credit

The integrated RAMP strategy develops agricultural markets by:

- Targeting high value crops for developing new markets and increasing opportunities for value added processing in Afghanistan
- Repairing irrigation systems that provide reliable water for increased production. In general, providing a reliable water source has the effect of doubling crop yields.
- Providing on-farm demonstrations that introduce diverse and improved varieties and best practices for crop diversity and higher yields.
- Providing livestock health and management services.
- Rebuilding farm to market roads to transport increased agricultural production to regional and distant markets.
- Building market centers that concentrate production in selected areas for easier access and more competitive pricing for farmers and buyers.
- Developing agri-business enterprises that create demand for production and create job opportunities for Afghans.
- Providing an array of credit and financial services for agribusiness development
- Addressing policy reform to create opportunities and growth for Afghan entrepreneurs.

The Five Priority Regions for Integrated Projects:

These five regions have been selected for RAMP projects on the basis of the region's agricultural production capacity and population density.

Regions: Provinces (13)	Population
#1. Kabul, Kapisa, Parwan	4,030,215
#2. Wardak, Logar, Ghazni	2,602,969
#3. Paktia, Nangarhar, Laghman, Kunar	1,809,962
#4. Baghlan, Kunduz	1,573,349
#5. Helmand, Kandahar	1,607,231
Totals:	11,623,726

Priority Region #1 – Shamali Plains – Parwan, Kabul, Kapisa

Targeted Commodities: Grapes, Almonds, Vegetables, Mulberries and Corn

Processing and Market Development

Dried Vegetable Production, Processing and Market Development, Development Works Canada (DWC)

Total Budget: \$2,223,102. DWC is constructing a two-story dehydration factory (6,200 square foot) and a production facility which will house most of the workers and the cleaning, dicing, and drying machinery, a warehouse, a small test laboratory to ensure quality control and gain customer confidence, a classroom for the research farm and frequent lessons, and a 70 meter borehole to provide clean water to wash the produce and irrigate the research farm. They have already obtained contracts for 500mt with European buyers and they will provide about 5,000 jobs for Afghan workers.

Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development The Roots of Peace Consortium (RoP)

Total Budget: \$5,998,252. RoP is developing and disseminating technical courseware and materials to Afghan farmers; establishing a trainer-to-trainer program to train Afghan extension agents; selecting and developing 10 model farms to demonstrate implementation and results of best practices; building new local centers and/or refurbishing existing buildings to create market/collection centers; improving vine propagation through nursery development and rejuvenation to ensure sufficient numbers of healthy vine and rootstock available; establishing 3 Farmer Owned Businesses (FOBs) to organize farmers into a legal private enterprise that provides the ability for them to secure credit from multi-lateral financial institutions; promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets; and exploring methods of external communication to convey pertinent information about grapes to all links in the supply chain.

Grain Post Harvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development The Grain Industry Alliance (GIA)

Total Budget: \$2,799,057. GIA is developing a series of demonstration clusters (sites) for proper cleaning, storage and handling of grain, combined with a training program at selected locations in each of the five RAMP priority Provinces. This includes developing 25 community level storage sites, 25 full scale farm demonstration units, and 25 small farm demonstration units. GIA is also providing a complete range of grain storage handling, grading sites in several locations and will allow for a targeted training program to be planned and delivered at various key times during the growing and harvesting season. Demonstration units and training will result in farmers replicating this storage capability throughout the training regions.

Water and Inputs

Completion of Three Dams in Shamali Plains

Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA) – Project Completed

Total Budget: \$2,746. RAFA reconstructed three water diversion dams along the Ghorband River (Charikar, Khwaja/Matak, Mahigeer) to irrigate approximately 18,000 hectares of land. Over 40 villages are irrigated by the canals from these dams.

Rehabilitation of Irrigation Canals in Parwan

Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA).

Total Budget: \$800,000. RAFA is rehabilitating six new water diversion dams over the Salang and Ghorband river to provide water to six canals. These six canals provide water for most of the agricultural land in Parwan Province.

Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development

International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)

Total Budget: \$2,970,300. IFDC is training 2,000 agri-input dealers, improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, developing business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establishing five private sector associations of agri-input dealers. IFDC activities are being conducted in cooperation with the ICARDA on-farm demonstrations.

On-farm Demonstrations and Best Practices

Training in Efficient Use of Resources for Arid Lands, Agricultural Production Job International Arid Lands Consortium (IALC)

Total Budget: \$400,000. IALC is supporting the sustainable development, management, and restoration of arid and semi-arid lands in Afghanistan; thereby ensuring food security, increased productivity, and increased income. This training is improving the efficient use of water and soil resources at the farm, community and regional levels; supporting human and institutional capacity development in agricultural education, research and water resource management institutions, and in arid lands conservation, management and development. Trainees are learning to apply appropriate technology in agriculture and livestock development; and support human capacity development needed backward and forward linkages in the food and fiber sector of Afghanistan.

Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Center for Improvement of Potatoes in Lima Peru (CIP)

Total Budget: \$662,891. ICARDA/CIP is providing technical guidance for operational efficiency, needs assessments, the ordering of start-up machinery and equipment, purchase of start-up inputs, and provision of relevant training for clean seed production, multiplication and marketing for increasing potato production in Afghanistan.

Village-Based Seed Enterprises

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,928,063. ICARDA is providing technical guidance for village-based seed enterprise development in Afghanistan. The project will produce a market survey, needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation. Other essential services and assistance include providing information and advice on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities and start-up inputs and providing relevant training (business management, marketing, accounting and seed technology).

On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,899,058. ICARDA is providing technical guidance in demonstrating new technologies in farmers' fields to facilitate rapid adoption and diffusion. This is increasing agricultural productivity and rural incomes by demonstrating available improved technologies in farmers' fields, focusing on improved varieties of field and vegetable crops that are adapted to local conditions, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management practices. The demonstration fields are designed to show farmers the advantages of improved varieties and crop management practices, compared with their traditional practices.

Protected Agriculture

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,624,845. ICARDA is introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.

Increasing Agricultural Production in Parwan, Kapisa and Kabul Provinces

Agence d'aide a la Cooperation et au Developpement (ACTED)

Total Budget: \$1,800,000. ACTED is working with farmers in the Shamali Plain to improve agricultural productivity through rehabilitating destroyed and exhausted orchards and vineyards, establishing nurseries, developing fruit processing by constructing innovative low-tech facilities (greenhouses, solar dryers and storage warehouses) focused on income-generating activities in priority for women.

Green Kabul Program, Reforestation

United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS)

Total Budget: \$999,360. UNOPS procured and distributed approximately 1 million trees throughout Kabul. Key activities included: planting fruit and forestry trees in various public locations throughout Kabul, including schools, government buildings, parks, roadsides, and the Kabul Green Belt; organizing Kabul Green Week activities, including public events, children's activities, receptions, entertainment, and education; coordinating an ongoing public information campaign to raise public awareness of environmental issues in Afghanistan.

Livestock Health and Management Services

Livestock Health, Production and Marketing Improvement

Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA)

Total Budget: \$7,673,062. DCA is creating a national network of private veterinary field units (VFU) capable of providing livestock health services in all districts of Afghanistan. They are training the para-veterinarians (paravets) required to staff and service this national network, and creating a livestock health, production, and marketing information system that links this private network with government departments on such issues as disease surveillance, livestock inventories, and trans-border issues.

Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Total Budget: \$3,599,239. FAO is introducing new knowledge and practical methods for improving poultry productivity to enable over 25,000 women to participate in poultry income generating activities (eggs production, and commercialization of eggs and chicken). New markets for eggs are being opened in urban centers bringing additional revenue to participating women.

Roads and Transport

Shamali Plains Roads Upgrade

Agence d'aide a la Cooperation et au Developpement (ACTED)

Total Budget: \$729,255. ACTED is rehabilitating 28 kilometers of tertiary roads in the Shamali Plains, including an estimated 100 culverts. The rehabilitation of rural infrastructure will increase agricultural output in the Shamali Plain, and complementary will improve the quality of input and production technology, streamline marketing techniques, provide access to markets, and enable the creation of producer organizations.

Rural Financial Services and Credit

Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA)

Total Budget: \$5 million. MISFA is financing a variety of organizations that implement a diverse range of microfinance approaches in order to test their applicability to Afghanistan and support the development of a diverse and competitive microfinance sector. This is a World Bank supported activity.

Priority Region #2 - Wardak, Logar, Ghazni

Targeted Commodities: Apples, Apricots, Carrots, Potatoes, Wheat

Processing and Market Development

Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development

The Roots of Peace Consortium (RoP)

Total Budget: \$5,998,252. RoP is developing and disseminating technical courseware and materials to Afghan farmers; establishing a trainer-to-trainer program to train Afghan extension agents; selecting and developing 10 model farms to demonstrate implementation and results of best practices; building new local centers and/or refurbishing existing buildings to create market/collection centers; improving vine propagation through nursery development and rejuvenation to ensure sufficient numbers of healthy vine and rootstock available; establishing 3 Farmer Owned Businesses (FOBs) to organize farmers into a legal

private enterprise that provides the ability for them to secure credit from multi-lateral financial institutions; promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets; and exploring methods of external communication to convey pertinent information about grapes to all links in the supply chain.

Grain Post Harvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development

The Grain Industry Alliance (GIA)

Total Budget: \$2,799,057. GIA is developing a series of demonstration clusters (sites) for proper cleaning, storage and handling of grain, combined with a training program at selected locations in each of the five RAMP priority Provinces. This includes developing 25 community level storage sites, 25 full scale farm demonstration units, and 25 small farm demonstration units. GIA is also providing a complete range of grain storage handling, grading sites in several locations and will allow for a targeted training program to be planned and delivered at various key times during the growing and harvesting season. Demonstration units and training will result in farmers replicating this storage capability throughout the training regions.

Water and Inputs

Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development

International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)

Total Budget: \$2,970,300. IFDC is training 2,000 agri-input dealers, improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, developing business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establishing five private sector associations of agri-input dealers. IFDC activities are being conducted in cooperation with the ICARDA on-farm demonstrations.

On-farm Demonstrations and Best Practices

Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Center for Improvement of Potatoes in Lima Peru (CIP)

Total Budget: \$662,891. ICARDA/CIP is providing technical guidance for operational efficiency, needs assessments, the ordering of start-up machinery and equipment, purchase of start-up inputs, and provision of relevant training for clean seed production, multiplication and marketing for increasing potato production in Afghanistan.

Village-Based Seed Enterprises

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,928,063. ICARDA is providing technical guidance for village-based seed enterprise development in Afghanistan. The project will produce a market survey, needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation. Other essential services and assistance include providing information and advice on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities and start-up inputs and providing relevant training (business management, marketing, accounting and seed technology).

On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,899,058. ICARDA is providing technical guidance in demonstrating new technologies in farmers' fields to facilitate rapid adoption and diffusion. This is increasing agricultural productivity and rural incomes by demonstrating available improved technologies in farmers' fields, focusing on improved varieties of field and vegetable crops that are adapted to local conditions, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management practices. The demonstration fields are designed to show farmers the advantages of improved varieties and crop management practices, compared with their traditional practices.

Protected Agriculture

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,624,845. ICARDA is introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating

farmers.

Livestock Health and Management Services

Livestock Health, Production and Marketing Improvement

Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA)

Total Budget: \$7,673,062. DCA is creating a national network of private veterinary field units (VFU) capable of providing livestock health services in all districts of Afghanistan. They are training the para-veterinarians (paravets) required to staff and service this national network, and creating a livestock health, production, and marketing information system that links this private network with government departments on such issues as disease surveillance, livestock inventories, and trans-border issues.

Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Total Budget: \$3,599,239. FAO is introducing new knowledge and practical methods for improving poultry productivity to enable over 25,000 women to participate in poultry income generating activities (eggs production, and commercialization of eggs and chicken). New markets for eggs are being opened in urban centers bringing additional revenue to participating women.

Roads and Transport

Repair of Ghazni-Meray Access Road - Ghazni

Engineering Services for Afghanistan Reconstruction (ESAR)

Total Budget: \$328,380. ESAR, an Afghan NGO, is repairing a critical market access road in Ghazni province. The contractor will repair 26km of road connecting Andar district center of Meray to the main Kabul – Kandahar Highway. The road repair will facilitate market access to the provincial capital of Ghazni for village farmers.

Road Rehabilitation in Malistan and Jaghori Districts In Ghazni Province

Ghazni Rural Support Program (GRSP)

Total Budget: \$478,422. GRSP, an Afghan NGO, is repairing roads in Malistan and Jaghori Districts in Ghazni Province. The roads will be 60 km long with 30 culverts, 2500 meter retaining walls to protect against flooding and 205 meter concrete pipes where water is crossing the road. The road rehabilitation will improve main transportation routes leading to critical provincial bazaars and markets.

Bridge Construction in Aga Khil - Wardak

Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan (AREA)

Total Budget: \$2,454. AREA reconstructed the bridge near Aga Khil, in Wardak province. The existing bridge spans a seasonal river, which floods during the spring and late summer. Vehicle traffic is rendered impossible and disrupts both local and Ghazni-Hazarajat transportation routes. Farmers are now able to transport agricultural goods to Ghazni and Hazarajat, year round.

Rural Financial Services and Credit

Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA)

Total Budget: \$5 million. MISFA is financing a variety of organizations that implement a diverse range of microfinance approaches in order to test their applicability to Afghanistan and support the development of a diverse and competitive microfinance sector. This is a World Bank supported activity.

Priority Region #3 – Paktia, Nangarhar, Laghman, Kunar

Targeted Commodities: Citrus, Vegetables, Wheat, Peanuts, Rice

Processing and Market Development

Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development The Roots of Peace Consortium (RoP)

Total Budget: \$5,998,252. RoP is developing and disseminating technical courseware and materials to Afghan farmers; establishing a trainer-to-trainer program to train Afghan extension agents; selecting and developing 10 model farms to demonstrate implementation and results of best practices; building new local centers and/or refurbishing existing buildings to create market/collection centers; improving vine propagation through nursery development and rejuvenation to ensure sufficient numbers of healthy vine and rootstock available; establishing 3 Farmer Owned Businesses (FOBs) to organize farmers into a legal private enterprise that provides the ability for them to secure credit from multi-lateral financial institutions; promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets; and exploring methods of external communication to convey pertinent information about grapes to all links in the supply chain.

Grain Post Harvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development The Grain Industry Alliance (GIA)

Total Budget: \$2,799,057. GIA is developing a series of demonstration clusters (sites) for proper cleaning, storage and handling of grain, combined with a training program at selected locations in each of the five RAMP priority Provinces. This includes developing 25 community level storage sites, 25 full scale farm demonstration units, and 25 small farm demonstration units. GIA is also providing a complete range of grain storage handling, grading sites in several locations and will allow for a targeted training program to be planned and delivered at various key times during the growing and harvesting season. Demonstration units and training will result in farmers replicating this storage capability throughout the training regions.

Agricultural Produce Market Centers – Relief International (RI)

Total Budget: \$1,337,707. RI will construct and equip nine Agriculture Produce Market Centers. Each market center will include eight secure storage building and twenty four market stalls; ii) construct twenty market collection centers; and iii) rehabilitate the wholesale fruit and vegetable market within Jalalabad. These market structures are strategically placed to take advantage of the road improvement projects also being implemented by RI. These centers will allow farmers to aggregate produce for better access to buyers and for easier transport to distant markets.

Water and Inputs

Irrigation Rehabilitation in Khewa District of Nangarhar

Social and Technical Association for Afghanistan Rehabilitation (STAAR)

Total Budget: \$336,488. STAAR is constructing 110 m of the Shegee main canal intake, rehabilitating 100m retaining wall, constructing 19 culverts along the Shegee main canal, and constructing spillways for the Shegee, Koti-Taran, Kachara canals, as well as construction of 325 m of the Koti-Taran intake, and rehabilitation of 325 m of the Kachara intake.

Improving Rural Agricultural Productivity through Irrigation Systems & Water Management - Nangarhar

Reconstruction and Social Services for Afghanistan (RSSA)

Total Budget: \$1,853,549. RSSA is rehabilitating the hydro-technical, protection and division structures at the end point of Nangarhar canal and sub canals covering 6,000 hectares of irrigable land.

Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development

International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)

Total Budget: \$2,970,300. IFDC is training 2,000 agri-input dealers, improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, developing business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establishing five private sector associations of agri-input dealers. IFDC activities are being conducted in cooperation with the ICARDA on-farm demonstrations.

Reclaiming Salinized and Waterlogged Farmland in Nangarhâr Province – International Foundation of Hope (IFHOPE)

Total Budget: \$ 1,961,846. IFHope is focusing on the rehabilitation of 116 Km of blocked drainage ditches in Nangarhar's two major irrigation systems. Blocked ditches are being cleaned or dredged using backhoes, dragline cranes, and hand labor to provide jobs for Afghan workers. The project is also fostering the implementation of a sustainable irrigation-system maintenance plan for the rehabilitated

areas, in conjunction with irrigation users and concerned governmental agencies.

On-farm Demonstrations and Best Practices

Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Center for Improvement of Potatoes in Lima Peru (CIP)

Total Budget: \$662,891. ICARDA/CIP is providing technical guidance for operational efficiency, needs assessments, the ordering of start-up machinery and equipment, purchase of start-up inputs, and provision of relevant training for clean seed production, multiplication and marketing for increasing potato production in Afghanistan.

Village-Based Seed Enterprises

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,928,063. ICARDA is providing technical guidance for village-based seed enterprise development in Afghanistan. The project will produce a market survey, needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation. Other essential services and assistance include providing information and advice on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities and start-up inputs and providing relevant training (business management, marketing, accounting and seed technology).

On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,899,058. ICARDA is providing technical guidance in demonstrating new technologies in farmers' fields to facilitate rapid adoption and diffusion. This is increasing agricultural productivity and rural incomes by demonstrating available improved technologies in farmers' fields, focusing on improved varieties of field and vegetable crops that are adapted to local conditions, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management practices. The demonstration fields are designed to show farmers the advantages of improved varieties and crop management practices, compared with their traditional practices.

Protected Agriculture

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,624,845. ICARDA is introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.

Livestock Health and Management Services

Livestock Health, Production and Marketing Improvement

Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA)

Total Budget: \$7,673,062. DCA is creating a national network of private veterinary field units (VFU) capable of providing livestock health services in all districts of Afghanistan. They are training the para-veterinarians (paravets) required to staff and service this national network, and creating a livestock health, production, and marketing information system that links this private network with government departments on such issues as disease surveillance, livestock inventories, and trans-border issues.

Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Total Budget: \$3,599,239. FAO is introducing new knowledge and practical methods for improving poultry productivity to enable over 25,000 women to participate in poultry income generating activities (eggs production, and commercialization of eggs and chicken). New markets for eggs are being opened in urban centers bringing additional revenue to participating women.

Roads and Transport

Kanday Road Rehabilitation, Transportation

Mission d'Aide au Développement des Economies Rurales (MADERA)

Total Budget: \$448,131. MADERA will rehabilitate a 300 meter section of the road between Jalalabad and Assadabad, and construct a protection wall and a gabion dyke to reduce erosion during periods of flooding. This includes the construction of a diversion canal. This road repair and protection wall ensures transport between the provinces of Nooristan, Kunar and Nangarhar with major produce markets in Kabul and Pakistan.

Improving Market Access Through Road Construction

Relief, International (RI)

Total Budget: \$2,300,000. RI is rehabilitating 148 kilometers of farm to market access roads in eight districts of Nangarhar. This includes the construction of adequate drainage, retaining walls, crossing and related structures. This road construction is coordinated with the building of market centers by RI that will allow farmers to aggregate their produce and take advantage of improved roads for transport.

Road Rehabilitation Project in Nangarhar, Kunar, and Nooristan

Afghanaid

Total Budget: \$3,000,000. Afghanaid is rehabilitating 200 kilometers of farm to market access roads in Nangarhar, Kunar and Nooristan provinces which covers the rehabilitation of 108 kilometers in Nangarhar and 92 kilometers in Kunar and Nooristan provinces.

Rural Financial Services and Credit

Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA)

Total Budget: \$5 million. MISFA is financing a variety of organizations that implement a diverse range of microfinance approaches in order to test their applicability to Afghanistan and support the development of a diverse and competitive microfinance sector. This is a World Bank supported activity.

Priority Region #4 – Baghlan, Kunduz

Targeted Commodities: Cotton, Wheat, Melons, Vegetables, Almonds, Stone Fruits

Processing and Market Development

Grain Post Harvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development

The Grain Industry Alliance (GIA)

Total Budget: \$2,799,057. GIA is developing a series of demonstration clusters (sites) for proper cleaning, storage and handling of grain, combined with a training program at selected locations in each of the five RAMP priority Provinces. This includes developing 25 community level storage sites, 25 full scale farm demonstration units, and 25 small farm demonstration units. GIA is also providing a complete range of grain storage handling, grading sites in several locations and will allow for a targeted training program to be planned and delivered at various key times during the growing and harvesting season. Demonstration units and training will result in farmers replicating this storage capability throughout the training regions.

Water and Inputs

Kunduz/Baghlan Irrigation Rehabilitation

Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) – Project Completed

Total Budget for Char Dara, Bala Doori and Darqad systems - \$1,335,804. Total amount spent: \$1,287,036. In Kunduz and Baghlan Provinces, DAI has rehabilitated three rural irrigation systems and returned more than 45,000 hectares of cultivated land to full irrigated production. This included de-silting and widening irrigation canals, repairing and replacing water intakes, canal banks, protection walls, turnouts, and sluice gates. The Char Dara system rehabilitation employed 2700 Afghan farmers in removing silt from 60 kilometers of irrigation canals. The Bala Doori project employed 1,000 Afghan workers to de-silt and clean 30 kilometers of canal. The Darqad project employed 700 Afghan workers to de-silt and clean 21 kilometers of canal.

Khanabad Dam Irrigation Rehabilitation and Road Repair Kunduz Rehabilitation Agency (KRA)

Total Budget: \$544,831. KRA is upgrading about 25 km of secondary roads, enabling farmers in Khanabad to more effectively transport and sell their agricultural produce, particularly the famous Kunduz melons, which are very susceptible to road damage. These roads are also being supplemented with produce collection centers to allow farmers to aggregate and protect their produce for transport. Additionally, KRA constructed a protection wall to halt erosion around the right side of the Khanabad dam, saving the entire system and protecting the irrigation command area. KRA is also constructing 4 water intakes that will collectively provide water to over 50,000 hectares of land for the production of wheat, cotton and rice.

Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)

Total Budget: \$2,970,300. IFDC is training 2,000 agri-input dealers, improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, developing business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establishing five private sector associations of agri-input dealers. IFDC activities are being conducted in cooperation with the ICARDA on-farm demonstrations.

On-farm Demonstrations and Best Practices

Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Center for Improvement of Potatoes in Lima Peru (CIP)

Total Budget: \$662,891. ICARDA/CIP is providing technical guidance for operational efficiency, needs assessments, the ordering of start-up machinery and equipment, purchase of start-up inputs, and provision of relevant training for clean seed production, multiplication and marketing for increasing potato production in Afghanistan.

Village-Based Seed Enterprises

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,928,063. ICARDA is providing technical guidance for village-based seed enterprise development in Afghanistan. The project will produce a market survey, needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation. Other essential services and assistance include providing information and advice on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities and start-up inputs and providing relevant training (business management, marketing, accounting and seed technology).

On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,899,058. ICARDA is providing technical guidance in demonstrating new technologies in farmers' fields to facilitate rapid adoption and diffusion. This is increasing agricultural productivity and rural incomes by demonstrating available improved technologies in farmers' fields, focusing on improved varieties of field and vegetable crops that are adapted to local conditions, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management practices. The demonstration fields are designed to show farmers the advantages of improved varieties and crop management practices, compared with their traditional practices.

Protected Agriculture

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,624,845. ICARDA is introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.

Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production – N. Afghanistan

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Total Budget \$606,651. FAO is implementing a follow-up emergency locust control in northern

Afghanistan and renovating the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. This includes the monitoring and control locust outbreaks, integrating ecologically-sound Integrated Pest Management (IPM) measures into the control strategy, and building the capacity of the PPQD to assume its plant protection functions.

Locust Control Program, Northern Afghanistan

GOAL

Total Budget \$627,072. GOAL is assisting the chemical control of locusts with the provision of technical support, plastic sheeting, nets, barrels for water, ploughs and tents; mobilization of the rural population to areas of locust infestation, through the provision of transportation; full logistical support to the FAO and MAAH for the chemical control intervention; and monitoring of locust infested sites and program advances, through constant feedback using site and monthly reports, crop damage assessments, locust egg-bed surveys, final evaluation and providing data for the locust database, and for the FAO and AIMS.

Livestock Health and Management Services

Livestock Health, Production and Marketing Improvement

Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA)

Total Budget: \$7,673,062. DCA is creating a national network of private veterinary field units (VFU) capable of providing livestock health services in all districts of Afghanistan. They are training the para-veterinarians (paravets) required to staff and service this national network, and creating a livestock health, production, and marketing information system that links this private network with government departments on such issues as disease surveillance, livestock inventories, and trans-border issues.

Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Total Budget: \$3,599,239. FAO is introducing new knowledge and practical methods for improving poultry productivity to enable over 25,000 women to participate in poultry income generating activities (eggs production, and commercialization of eggs and chicken). New markets for eggs are being opened in urban centers bringing additional revenue to participating women.

Roads and Transport

Reconstruction of Road Infrastructure in Kunduz Province

Partners in Revitalization and Building (PRB).

Total Budget: \$857,291. PRB, an Afghan NGO, is upgrading and rehabilitating 73.6 kilometers of secondary roads in Kunduz province, Imam Sahib district. Rehabilitation of these roads across the province will facilitate agricultural market access.

Rural Financial Services and Credit

Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA)

Total Budget: \$5 million. MISFA is financing a variety of organizations that implement a diverse range of microfinance approaches in order to test their applicability to Afghanistan and support the development of a diverse and competitive microfinance sector. This is a World Bank supported activity.

Priority Region #5 – Helmand, Kandahar

Targeted Commodities: Pomegranates, Grapes, Cotton, Wheat, Melons

Processing and Market Development

Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development

The Roots of Peace Consortium (RoP)

Total Budget: \$5,998,252. RoP is developing and disseminating technical courseware and materials to Afghan farmers; establishing a trainer-to-trainer program to train Afghan extension agents; selecting and developing 10 model farms to demonstrate implementation and results of best practices; building new local centers and/or refurbishing existing buildings to create market/collection centers; improving vine

propagation through nursery development and rejuvenation to ensure sufficient numbers of healthy vine and rootstock available; establishing 3 Farmer Owned Businesses (FOBs) to organize farmers into a legal private enterprise that provides the ability for them to secure credit from multi-lateral financial institutions; promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets; and exploring methods of external communication to convey pertinent information about grapes to all links in the supply chain.

Grain Post Harvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development The Grain Industry Alliance (GIA)

Total Budget: \$2,799,057. GIA is developing a series of demonstration clusters (sites) for proper cleaning, storage and handling of grain, combined with a training program at selected locations in each of the five RAMP priority Provinces. This includes developing 25 community level storage sites, 25 full scale farm demonstration units, and 25 small farm demonstration units. GIA is also providing a complete range of grain storage handling, grading sites in several locations and will allow for a targeted training program to be planned and delivered at various key times during the growing and harvesting season. Demonstration units and training will result in farmers replicating this storage capability throughout the training regions.

Water and Inputs

Fil Koh Chute Irrigation Repair – Kandahar – Project Completed GULSAN-Cucurova

Total Budget: \$45,000. GULSAN-Cucurova rehabilitated the Fil Koh chute in Kandahar. The chute was damaged during military action and water was undermining the structure, threatening collapse and the disruption of water to 45,000 hectares. The main activities included the enlargement of the hole in the floor of the chute to assess the extent of undermining. Repairs included the use of cyclopic concrete, finishing the floor with reinforced concrete, construction of a small energy dissipation structure, repair of the wing walls and mortared rip rap at the outlet.

Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development

International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)

Total Budget: \$2,970,300. IFDC is training 2,000 agri-input dealers, improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, developing business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establishing five private sector associations of agri-input dealers. IFDC activities are being conducted in cooperation with the ICARDA on-farm demonstrations.

Kandahar Check Dams, Irrigation and Agricultural Production Central Asia Development Group (CADG)

Total Budget: \$706,915. CADG is constructing check dams to form reservoirs to store rain water and prevent erosion in Kandahar and Helmand provinces. The construction of strategically placed check dams will enable farmers to harvest rainwater and divert stored water to underground aquifers and recharging karezes (ancient underground aqueducts).

On-farm Demonstrations and Best Practices

Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development

Central Asia Development Group (CADG)

Total Budget: \$4,265,208. CADG is stimulating the expansion and supervision of agricultural activities, establishing demonstration farms, contracting the growing of selected crops, and providing technical assistance and expertise in the areas of agriculture, processing and marketing, application of technologies to crop development, and implementation of drip irrigation plots.

Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Center for Improvement of Potatoes in Lima Peru (CIP)

Total Budget: \$662,891. ICARDA/CIP is providing technical guidance for operational efficiency, needs assessments, the ordering of start-up machinery and equipment, purchase of start-up inputs, and provision of relevant training for clean seed production, multiplication and marketing for increasing potato production in Afghanistan.

Village-Based Seed Enterprises

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,928,063. ICARDA is providing technical guidance for village-based seed enterprise development in Afghanistan. The project will produce a market survey, needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation. Other essential services and assistance include providing information and advice on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities and start-up inputs and providing relevant training (business management, marketing, accounting and seed technology).

On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,899,058. ICARDA is providing technical guidance in demonstrating new technologies in farmers' fields to facilitate rapid adoption and diffusion. This is increasing agricultural productivity and rural incomes by demonstrating available improved technologies in farmers' fields, focusing on improved varieties of field and vegetable crops that are adapted to local conditions, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management practices. The demonstration fields are designed to show farmers the advantages of improved varieties and crop management practices, compared with their traditional practices.

Protected Agriculture

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Total Budget: \$1,624,845. ICARDA is introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.

Livestock Health and Management Services

Livestock Health, Production and Marketing Improvement

Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA)

Total Budget: \$7,673,062. DCA is creating a national network of private veterinary field units (VFU) capable of providing livestock health services in all districts of Afghanistan. They are training the para-veterinarians (paravets) required to staff and service this national network, and creating a livestock health, production, and marketing information system that links this private network with government departments on such issues as disease surveillance, livestock inventories, and trans-border issues.

Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Total Budget: \$3,599,239. FAO is introducing new knowledge and practical methods for improving poultry productivity to enable over 25,000 women to participate in poultry income generating activities (eggs production, and commercialization of eggs and chicken). New markets for eggs are being opened in urban centers bringing additional revenue to participating women.

Rural Financial Services and Credit

Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA)

Total Budget: \$5 million. MISFA is financing a variety of organizations that implement a diverse range of microfinance approaches in order to test their applicability to Afghanistan and support the development of a diverse and competitive microfinance sector. This is a World Bank supported activity.

Other Provinces – Jawzjan, Badakshan, Balkh, Faryab, Herat

Processing and Market Development, Water and Inputs

Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project and Agribusiness Program - Herat Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Total Budget: \$3,499,767. CRS is rehabilitating irrigation systems in Herat Province to stimulate market-led agricultural development in western Afghanistan by improving key components of the agricultural infrastructure and strengthening supply chains for key crops produced. CRS is also creating market opportunities for three high-value crops and provide support services to producers and other supply chain actors to ensure long-term impacts.

On-farm Demonstrations and Best Practices

Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production – Balkh, Jawzjan, Badakshan

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Total Budget \$606,651. FAO is implementing a follow-up emergency locust control in northern Afghanistan and renovating the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. This includes the monitoring and control locust outbreaks, integrating ecologically-sound Integrated Pest Management (IPM) measures into the control strategy, and building the capacity of the PPQD to assume its plant protection functions.

Locust Control Program, Balkh, Jawzjan, Badakshan

GOAL

Total Budget \$627,072. GOAL is assisting the chemical control of locusts with the provision of technical support, plastic sheeting, nets, barrels for water, ploughs and tents; mobilization of the rural population to areas of locust infestation, through the provision of transportation; full logistical support to the FAO and MAAH for the chemical control intervention; and monitoring of locust infested sites and program advances, through constant feedback using site and monthly reports, crop damage assessments, locust egg-bed surveys, final evaluation and providing data for the locust database, and for the FAO and AIMS.

Livestock Health and Management Services

Livestock Health, Production and Marketing Improvement

Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA)

Total Budget: \$7,673,062. DCA is creating a national network of private veterinary field units (VFU) capable of providing livestock health services in all districts of Afghanistan. They are training the para-veterinarians (paravets) required to staff and service this national network, and creating a livestock health, production, and marketing information system that links this private network with government departments on such issues as disease surveillance, livestock inventories, and trans-border issues.

Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Total Budget: \$3,599,239. FAO is introducing new knowledge and practical methods for improving poultry productivity to enable over 25,000 women to participate in poultry income generating activities (eggs production, and commercialization of eggs and chicken). New markets for eggs are being opened in urban centers bringing additional revenue to participating women.

Roads and Transport

Road Rehabilitation in Balkh Province

Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan (AREA)

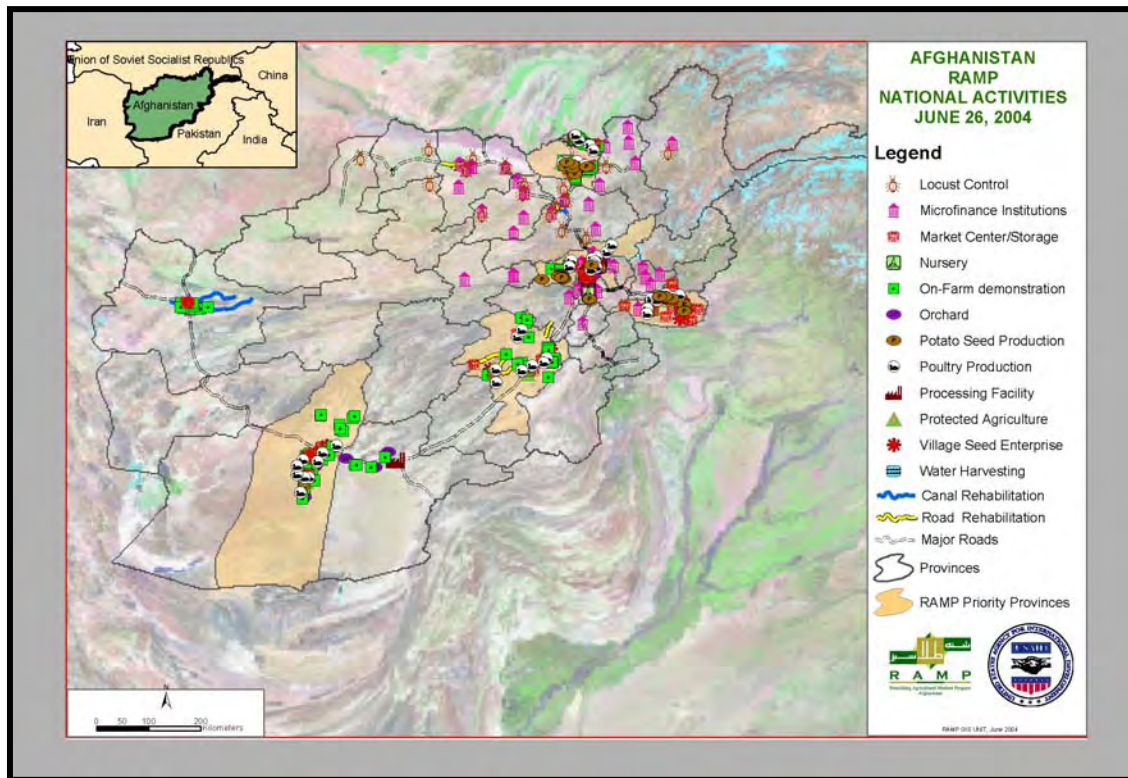
Total Budget: \$1,242,867. AREA is rehabilitating 100 km of road in the Balkh province, including the construction of culverts, drainages, and other necessary road structures. The road construction is improving main transportation routes leading to the main Bazar and market.

Rural Financial Services and Credit

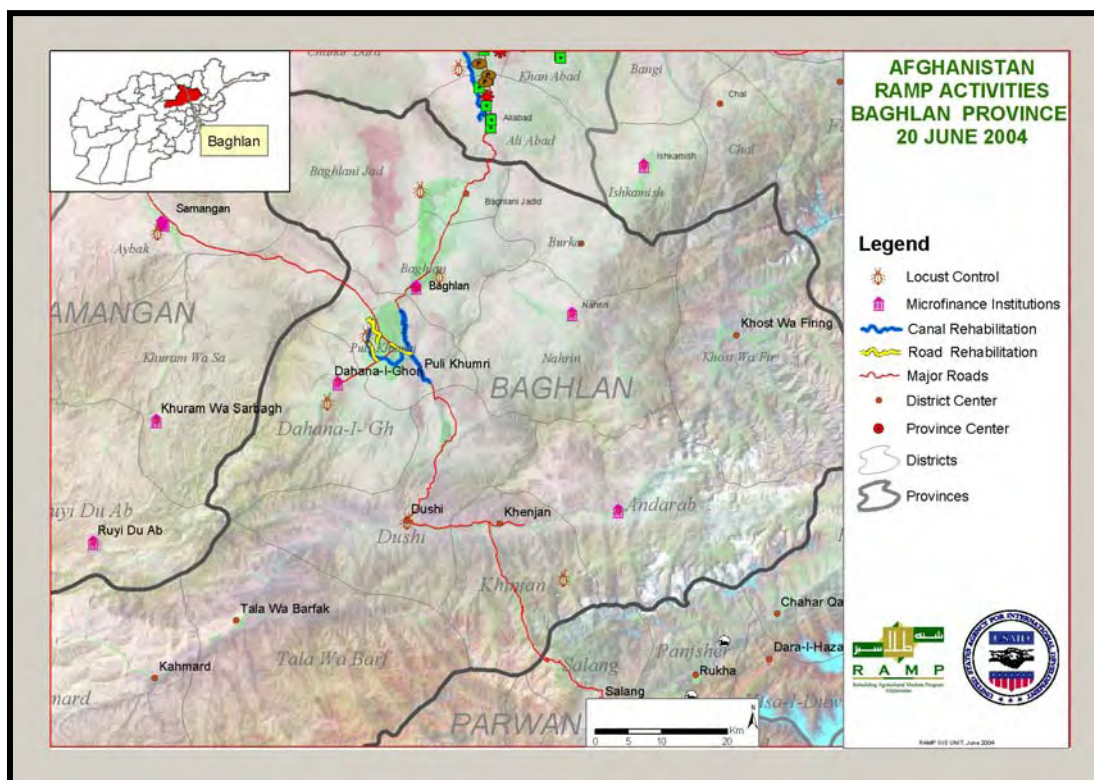
Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA) - Nationwide

Total Budget: \$5 million. MISFA is financing a variety of organizations that implement a diverse range of microfinance approaches in order to test their applicability to Afghanistan and support the development of a diverse and competitive microfinance sector. This is a World Bank supported activity.

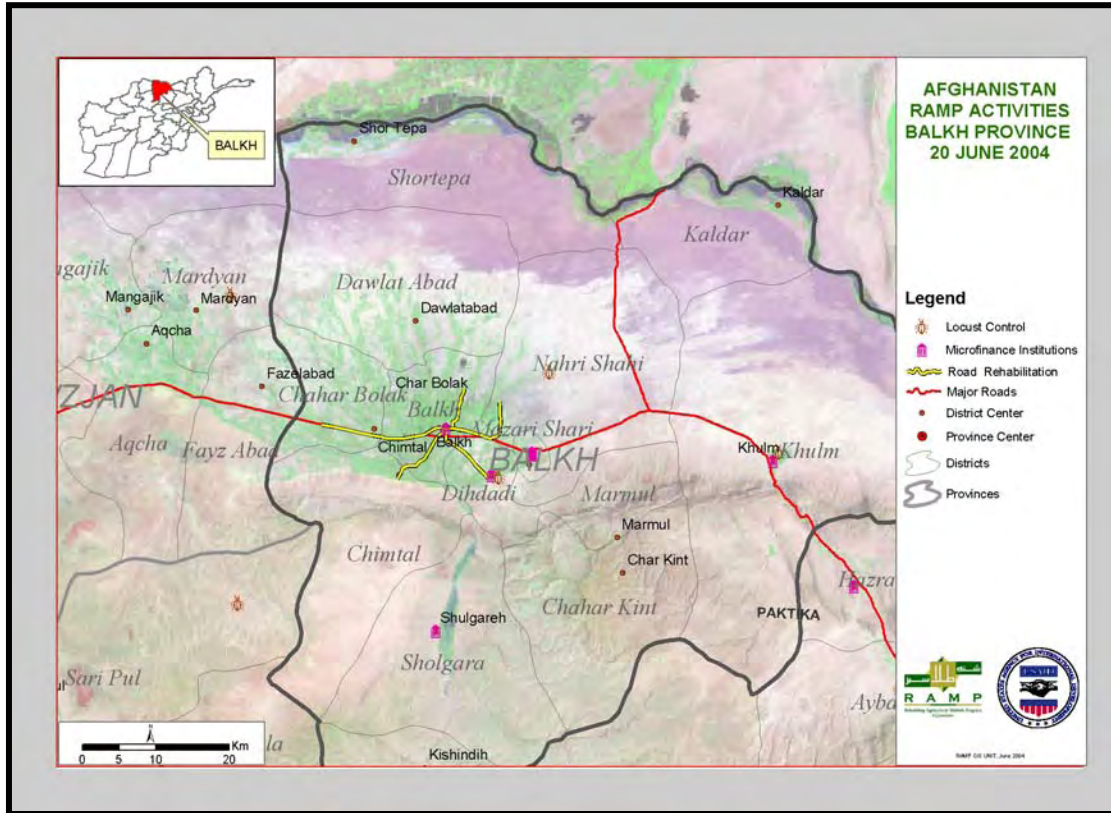
Nationwide Activities



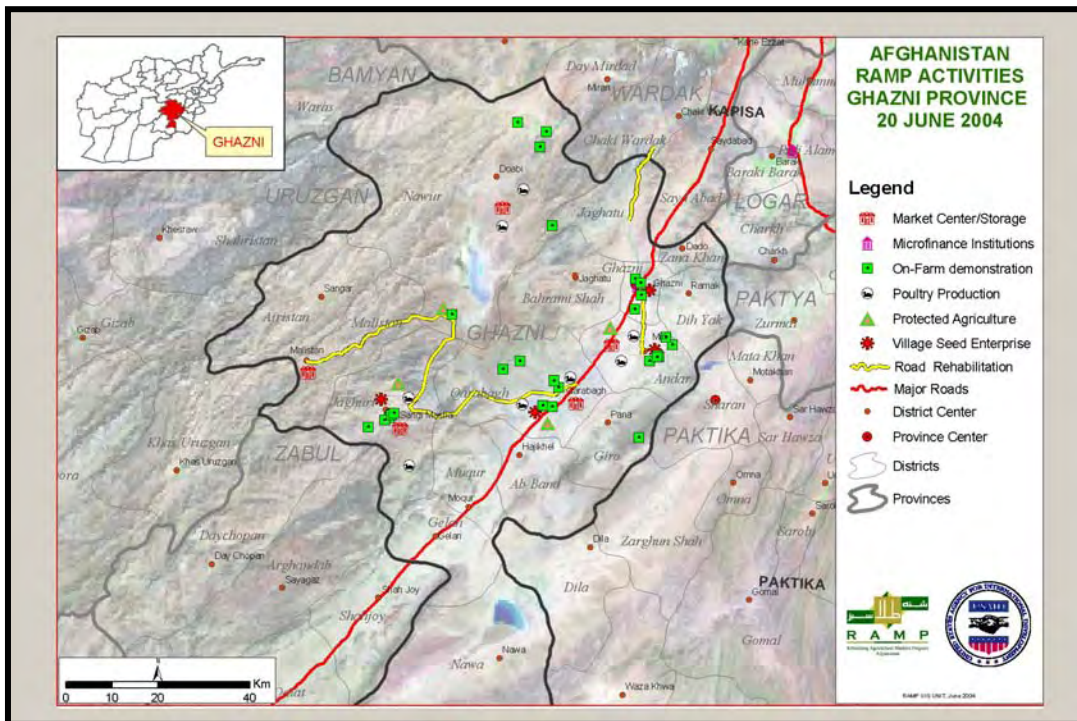
Baghlan Province



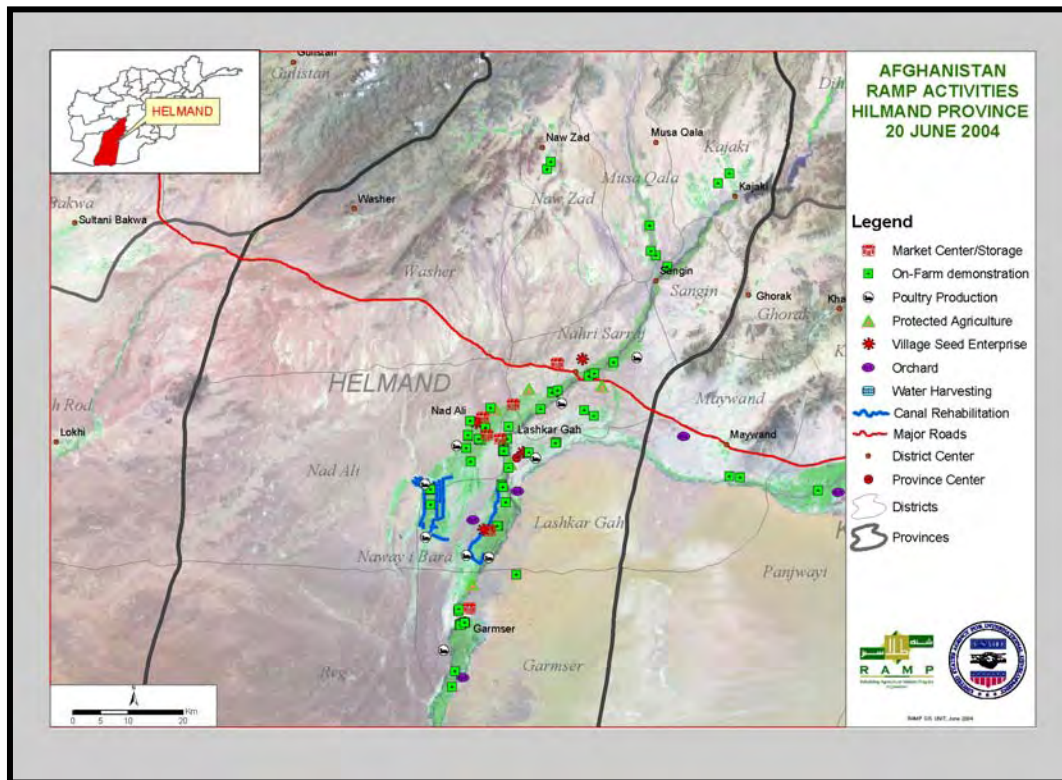
Balkh Province



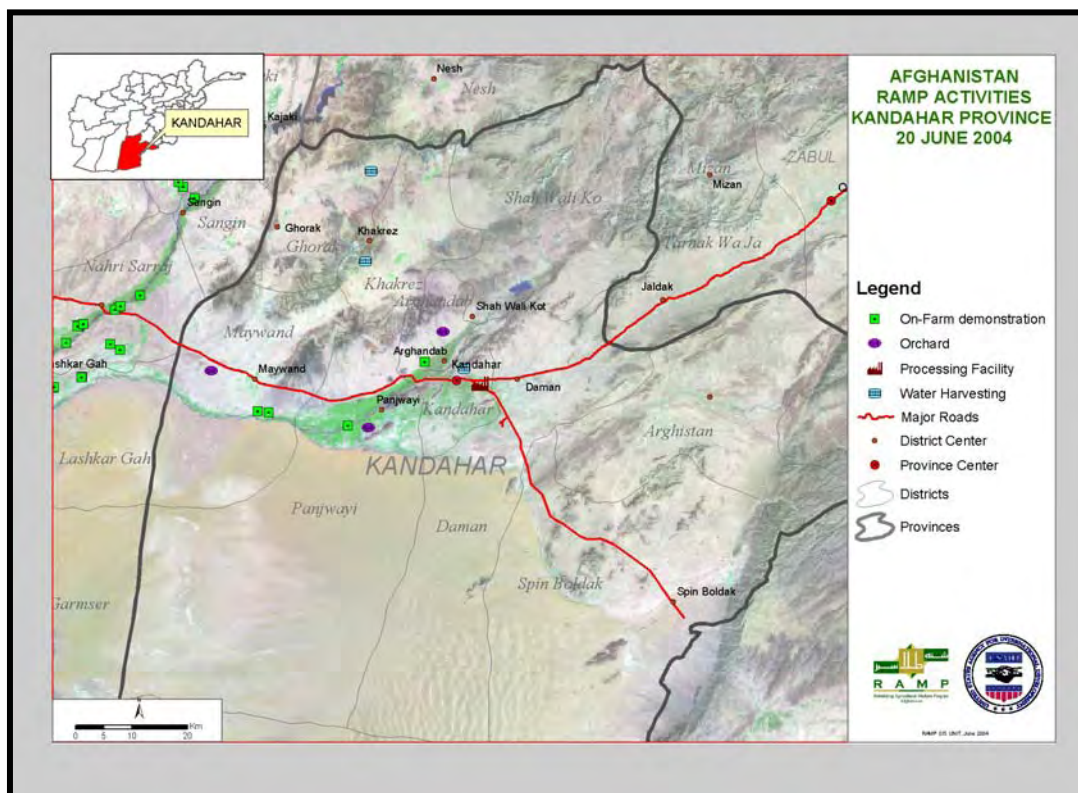
Ghazni Province



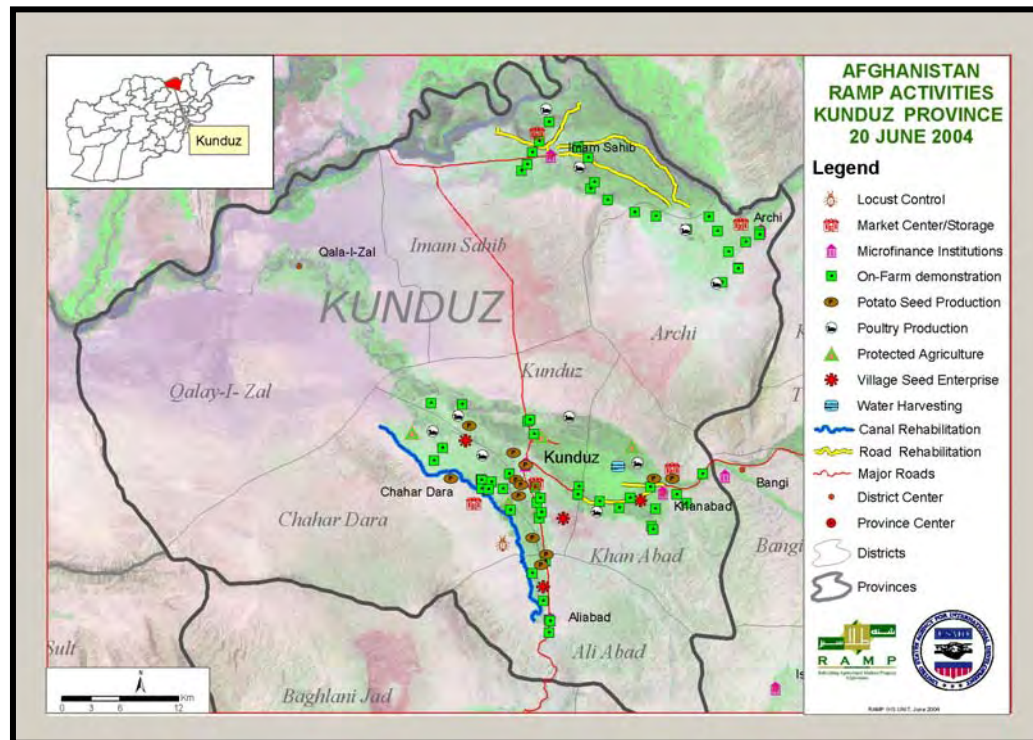
Helmand Province



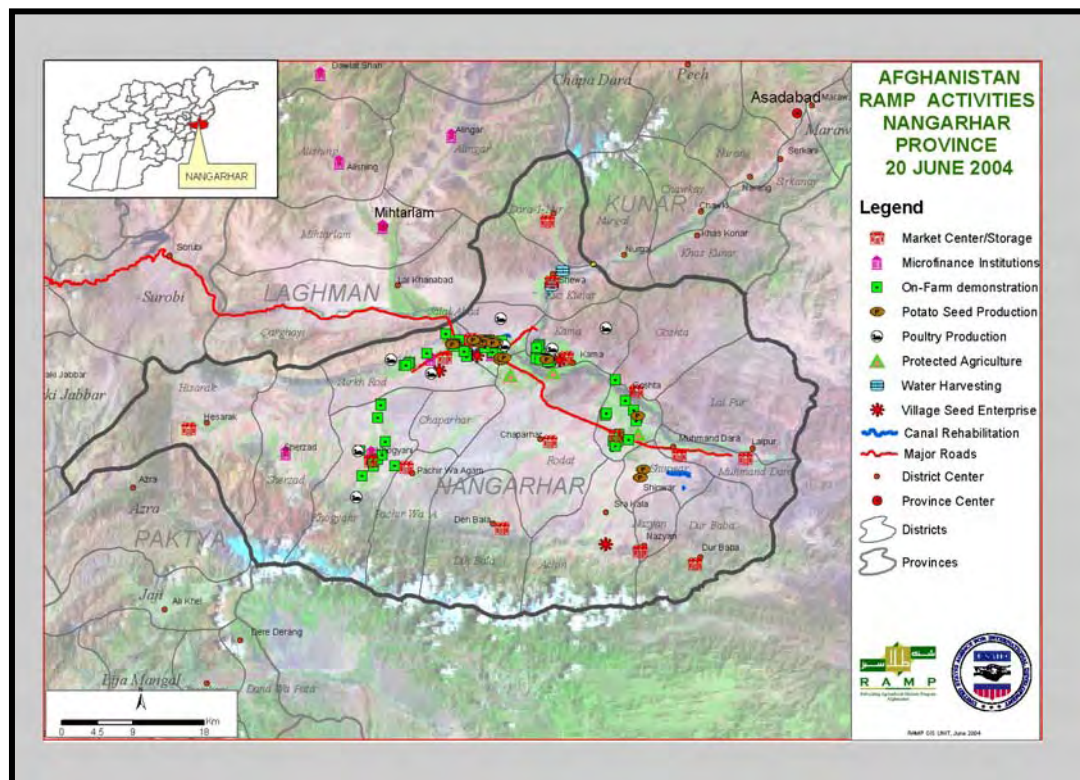
Kandahar Province



Kunduz Province



Nangarhar Province



Shamali Plains: Kabul, Kapisa and Parwan

